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Turf Care

101



WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

Whether or not this is your first time having artificial grass, our whole crew at Turf Team would like to congratulate you on your recent landscape investment. You can now enjoy your yard 365 days a year without the ongoing hassle and expense that most people have to put up with!

We've created this guide for you to help keep your artificial grass in pristine condition for many years to come. You can "turf" that old lawn mower, but like any surface, artificial turf eventually needs some care.

Think of your turf like an outdoor carpet... Over time it will naturally accumulate dirt, debris, hair, dog urine and other gross bacteria. You might not see it with the naked eye, but it's there! Many of our clients enjoy walking on the turf in bare feet and some have young kids and dogs playing on the turf as well. For that reason, we want to make sure your surface is safe and sanitary!

TURF CARE MYTHBUSTERS:

Will Hot objects will damage my turf?

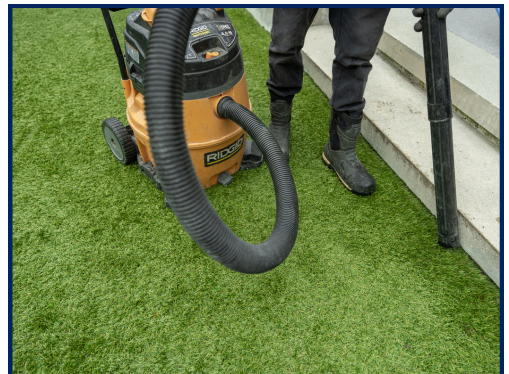
Yes! Although your artificial turf is non-flammable and designed to withstand the natural heat of the sun, You should avoid placing hot objects on your turf. This will melt the grass blades and will cause damage. If this happens, we can most likely fix the affected area by using the repair piece that we left with you. If your turf becomes too warm to walk on barefoot in the summer, you can hose it down to help lower the temperature, or just wear some socks!

Is Artificial Turf is Maintenance-free?

No! Although artificial turf requires a fraction of the attention that a traditional lawn does, there is still a certain degree of upkeep associated with it. The main thing that you will have to do is avoid letting any soil or organic debris onto your turf. This can act as a nutrient rich base for weeds and grasses to grow into your artificial turf. During fall time, pick up any leaves within 1 week of them falling onto your turf. Avoid letting any soil/ debris heavy runoff onto your turf. If your turf looks like it needs some love, we do offer an annual Turf Cleaning service (see last page)

Can heavy objects damage the turf?

Sometimes... You may gently place (but not drop) heavy objects onto your artificial turf. Beneath it is a compacted gravel base (not concrete). A heavy object with a small surface area can cause dents in the base below. Cutting large tree branches and allowing them to fall onto your artificial turf can cause this type of damage.



Can I use a vacuum to clean my turf?

Yes* You may vacuum your artificial turf if the nozzle is pointed parallel to the grade of the artificial turf. Only vacuum with the nozzle following the grain of the grass (you can determine the grain of the grass by brushing it with your hands. The direction that gives the least resistance will determine the direction of the grain). Do not point the nozzle downwards and allow for a vacuum seal against the turf. This will suck up the infill beneath the artificial turf. We have a modified carpet cleaning machine that can deep clean/vacuum your turf upon request

Can I clean my turf with a pressure washer?

With Caution! While we don't recommend our clients to pressure wash their own turf or putting green, it can be done without damage to the turf with the proper attachment and technique. Please contact us for more details.

Will the colour of my turf ever fade in the sun?

No! Our artificial turf products are backed by a lifetime warranty against any kind of colour fading. You may notice the turf is more shiny from one direction in the sun. This is perfectly normal as the grass blades have a direction and the UV rays of the sun will deflect differently depending on the angle you are looking from.

Will outdoor furniture and trampolines ruin the turf?

Not Necessarily! Outdoor furniture may be placed on Artificial turf, however it's recommended that the legs of the furniture have at least a 1" surface area such as plywood or a strip of turf to prevent blade denting. Do not place outdoor furniture on putting greens since this is more susceptible to denting. If you move the heavy objects after a while, the grass blades will be matted down, so simply brush the grass blades up with your hands or a deck scrubbing brush.



QUICK FIXES

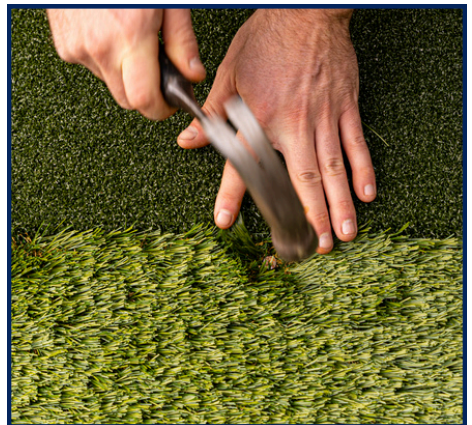
Sometimes we get calls for very simple fixes and in most cases it's much quicker and cheaper to take care of yourself! We are usually fully booked at least 1-2 months in advance so this will help speed things up. If you need help we can even send you a quick video tutorial or describe it over the phone.

The turf is lifting up: In this case, we just need to add a couple nails into the grass. We use 5" spiral nails but most nails over 4" will do the trick! Just make sure the nailhead does not pin down the grass blades otherwise it will be noticeable.

Loose piece of gravel under the turf: This can happen during the normal course of installation where one small rock is poking up above the compacted gravel base. If you can feel a rock poking up, under your turf or putting green it's a super easy fix! Using your foot, stomp the spot down, use a hand tamper or a piece of 2x4 and a hammer will do the trick. Essentially, it just needs to be re-compacted flush with the grade of the base layer.

Grass Blades Matted down: Common examples of these are when patio sets are placed on the artificial turf and are taken in for the fall/winter time. The same thing happens if you move a trampoline or other heavy object. This will leave the grass blades matted down. This issue is easily fixable by taking a nail or deck scrubbing brush and brushing the grass blades back up. In more severe cases, this may be caused by the infill being pushed and not being able to support the grass fibers. In that case we would just need to brush more infill into the affected area.

Having Company Over? If you're havin friends/family over for an outdoor gathering and want the turf looking its best, give our Turf Cleaning crew a call,



THE BASICS OF TURF MAINTENANCE:

Moss:

If left alone, your artificial turf may accumulate moss, especially in shaded, south-facing areas. A combination of Moss killer, powerbrooming and pressure washing can be used to kill off the moss, but you can also use a fork to pick out the clumps of moss from the grass blades

Weeds:

Apply weed killer if weeds are small (Be advised, not all weed killers are safe for young children or pets). For larger weeds, carefully pull up by the roots with a nail or your hand. If the weeds are close to the perimeter, be careful to not pull up the turf and its nails. It's recommended that you use a powerbroom afterwards to disperse seedlings and uproot small weeds. When using weed killer, ensure that the runoff won't affect nearby plants or ecosystems!

Stains:

You may use a variety of household cleaners on artificial turf including bleach. When applying chemicals on your artificial turf, ensure that you wash the area down thoroughly afterwards to remove any residue. Again, please ensure that the runoff won't affect nearby plants or ecosystems.

Organic Debris:

There are 3 main pieces of equipment that you may use to pick up debris on your artificial turf. Leaf blowers, stiff bristle brooms, and plastic rakes. We nail the perimeter of all of our artificial turf jobs to the point that they're hurricane-proof so that leaf blowers can be used on them. Vacuums can also be used sparingly, as long as they are used on the surface only and not suctioning out the infill.



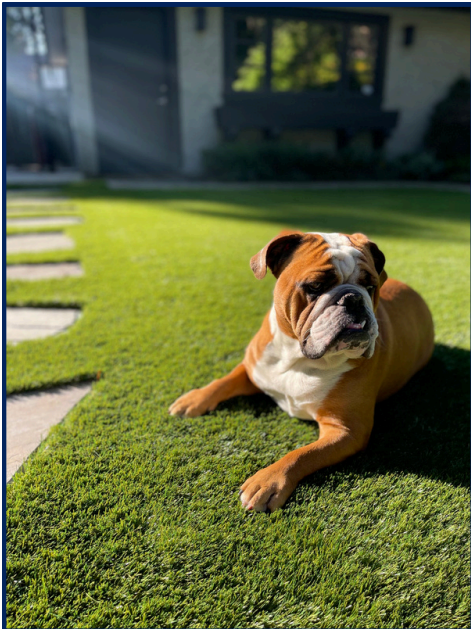
TOP 7 TIPS FOR MAINTAINING AN ARTIFICIAL LAWN WITH PETS:

- 1** | Hose the area down after they do their “business”. This becomes especially important during the summer months in Vancouver when we don’t get as much rain to help rinse off the turf. If you know your dog has just gone to the bathroom on the turf, it’s best to grab a hose (on the high-jet setting) and spray the area down. This really helps to drain all the urine and prevent odors.
- 2** | Buy a bottle of Turf Renu or similar product (available from BC Brick or Amazon). Simply attach the bottle on to your hose and spray down the turf. It will break down any odor-causing enzymes in the turf and leave a light fresh scent.
- 3** | Train your dog to pee in the back corner of the yard. We have heard great feedback from our clients that were able to train their dog to pee in a particular area. You can try buying a mini fire hydrant at the pet store or amazon, and place it far away from the areas where you spend the most time.



- 4** | Scoop the poop with the direction of the grass blades. You'll notice that your turf has a "grain direction", and you'll want to scoop with the grain, rather than against it.
- 5** | Ensure your lawn was infilled with Zeolite or Envirofill and top them up every 3 to 5 years. Think of this stuff like what goes into a kitty litter box to keep odors at bay. Over time, the infill may get displaced from regular usage and will be less effective. Ideally, we re-apply one bag of deodorizing infill for every 100 sq ft after a few years.
- 6** | Powerbroom your turf a few times/year to get all the debris and dog hair out of your lawn. These machines can be rented at the local rental shop, or we can do it for you. Check out the image below for what we extracted from a dog-friendly turf area!
- 7** | Deep clean and sanitize the turf. If you have kids playing on the turf or wish to walk in your bare feet, you want to make sure the turf is clean and sanitary! Spray Turf Renu can help, but a deep cleaning machine is the turf equivalent of putting your clothes in the laundry machine. We invested in a commercial carpet cleaning machine and modified it specially to clean turf. Most of our clients with dogs have us come by 1 to 4 times/year for our turf cleaning service.

To learn more about our Artificial Turf Cleaning Service, see the next page



OUR TURF CLEANING SERVICE:

After an overwhelming demand for our annual Turf Cleaning service, we decided to launch a dedicated brand, **Turf Clean**. We realize most of our clients don't own all this equipment, nor wish to do it themselves, which is where we can help! Let the Turf Clean crew keep your turf in pristine condition so you can spend your time enjoying it...

Our approach to artificial turf maintenance is unique to each of our clients and may include:

- ◆ Leaf and organic debris removal
- ◆ Power brooming: to remove surface debris and get the grass blades standing up again
- ◆ Turf Cleaning/Vacuuming: This machine leaves your turf clean enough to eat from!
- ◆ Weed/Moss removal: we get them by the root so they won't come back!
- ◆ Sanitize/Deodorize: Spray the grass with "Turf Renu" to sanitize and leave a fresh scent
- ◆ Repairs if necessary...
- ◆ Putting green maintenance if necessary...
- ◆ Stain removal and more!

Turf Cleaning starts at **\$250/visit**. To receive your estimate on this service, please scan the QR Code!

From all of us at Turf Team, we genuinely wish you get the most out of your low-maintenance lawn, and we're here to help you!

Sincerely, your turf experts at...



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