

Park Avenue Turf, Inc. P. O. Box 2198 Sebastopol, CA 95473

Dear California Department of Water Resources,

My name is Michael Strunk President of Park Avenue Turf, Inc., a sod farm here in California that currently grows sod in Sonoma, Solano, and Butte Counties. We have been in business for over thirty years and employ over 50 employees.

I am writing to express our concern over the proposed water use efficiency/landscape ordinance. I feel that targeting one industry to make up for the State of California's lack of planning for water shortages due to drought would significantly hurt families and business all over California. California has a responsibility to create more water storage and water resources in preparation for such times as these and should not try make up for lost time by prohibiting sod installation. While reducing water consumption is obviously necessary at this time; business and households should be able to choose how they use their allotment. Sod helps to keep homes cool and provides a place to play for our children. A lawn helps to filter dust and dirt from the environment and also reduces erosion. Furthermore, sod assists to absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, thus keeping air fresh and clean around the houses and businesses.

Park Avenue Turf has been offering a new drought tolerant sod which uses 30 per cent less water than other sod in an effort to help reduce landscape water consumption and there are many other drought tolerant sods available, some which use less water than other landscape plantings. I must stress that while I understand the need for water conservation and support water use reduction, I feel that each household and business should be allotted water to be used as they choose.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my concerns.

Michael Strunk

President/CEO

Park Avenue Turf, Inc.