SYNTHECIC GRASS
Taking Green in a Different Direction

We've come a long way.....
The lawns shown in these slides are synthetic grass lawns. These shots are presented as a means of suggesting various applications that may be used in multiple settings that do not have a sports-based use.

As you will see from the photos to follow, proper application and installation are the key to providing a lawn that replicates the real thing, providing a usable space, pleasing aesthetics, reduced resources and minimal maintenance & upkeep.
Given a choice....

We would all agree that living grass is visually more pleasing than most of the alternatives we’ve had to work with.

We would not all agree, however with whether it is the best option at many of the sites we’ve chosen to use it.
At best, it’s aesthetically pleasing and relatively easy to maintain (under ideal conditions.)

At worst, it’s high maintenance, high water use, temperamental and finicky (under ideal conditions.)
It may just be time to consider other options to replace our intrinsic desire for green lawns.
In many places, grass simply does not work effectively !!

• Sprinkler problems
• Mowing & edging difficulties
• High wear & tear
• No water source
• Noise restrictions for maintaining
• Limited maintenance time
What if a difficult area like this …..

Could look like this…

but with:

No mowing, edging
No water, fertilizer, chemicals
No maintenance equipment
No problems with wear from foot traffic
No animal problems such as ground squirrels, moles, etc.
What we think of when we think “Fake Grass”
We are in the initial stages of experimenting with synthetic lawns in several viable locations at UCSB
The students living at this resident hall never hear a lawn mower or edger… they love the fact that their lawn is ready for them to use…. Always !!
Consider these advantages:

• Lower maintenance costs
• Less time operating power equipment
• No water required on actual lawn area
• 24/7 Continual use without any wear and tear
• No fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides
• No invasion of weeds, spreading of weed seeds
• No gopher or ground squirrel problems
• Ideal soil conditions are not required
• Sunlight requirements do not apply – full shade works!
• Control of erosion and washout
• No problems with cold weather or excessive heat
• Worn paths and short cuts are a thing of the past....
THE POSSIBILITIES ARE MANY...
YOUR MIND IS
YOUR ONLY LIMIT!!
R. Williams
Supt. of Grounds
H &RS - UCSB