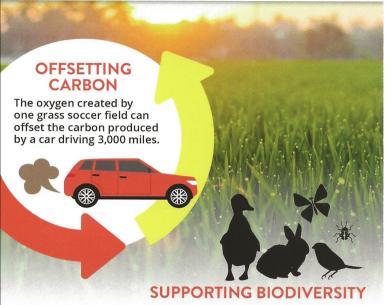
# How does grass improve the environment?



Turfgrass on fields, golf courses, and more provides food and habitat for birds and small mammals. Insects and worms also live among grass blades and below the surface.



PROTECTS SOIL FROM EROSION



REMOVES DUST FROM THE AIR



CREATES FIRE BARRIER



IMPROVES FLOOD CONTROL

### **BOOSTING BIOREMEDIATION**

Pollutants like heavy metals end up in our soil, where they must be broken down by bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms. The fibrous root system of turfgrass provides both the habitat and energy source for these microbial populations to be much more productive—eliminating more of these dangerous substances.





Virginia Turfgrass

The Virginia Turfgrass Foundation promotes the benefits of natural grass by funding research to preserve, transform, and improve the environment.

# What makes turfgrass nature's problem solver?





#### **ENERGY SAVER**

The transpirational cooling effect of green turfs saves energy by reducing the cooling power needs of adjacent homes and buildings—in some climates, by as much as 30%, compared with rock-based landscaping or pavement.

#### WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM

Turfgrass slows water flow and filters out sediment prior to runoff into storm drains and bodies of water. Turf systems also hold onto household and industrial pollutants that would otherwise enter our groundwater.





## AN ANSWER TO GLOBAL WARMING?

Researchers at the University of Manchester believe increasing green/grassy spaces in cities would overcome temperature rise enough to offset global warming for 75 years.



### DIG DEEP TO PROTECT TURFGRASS!

The VTF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that collects and distributes funds for innovative turfgrass research. Your taxdeductible gift will make a REAL impact.

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