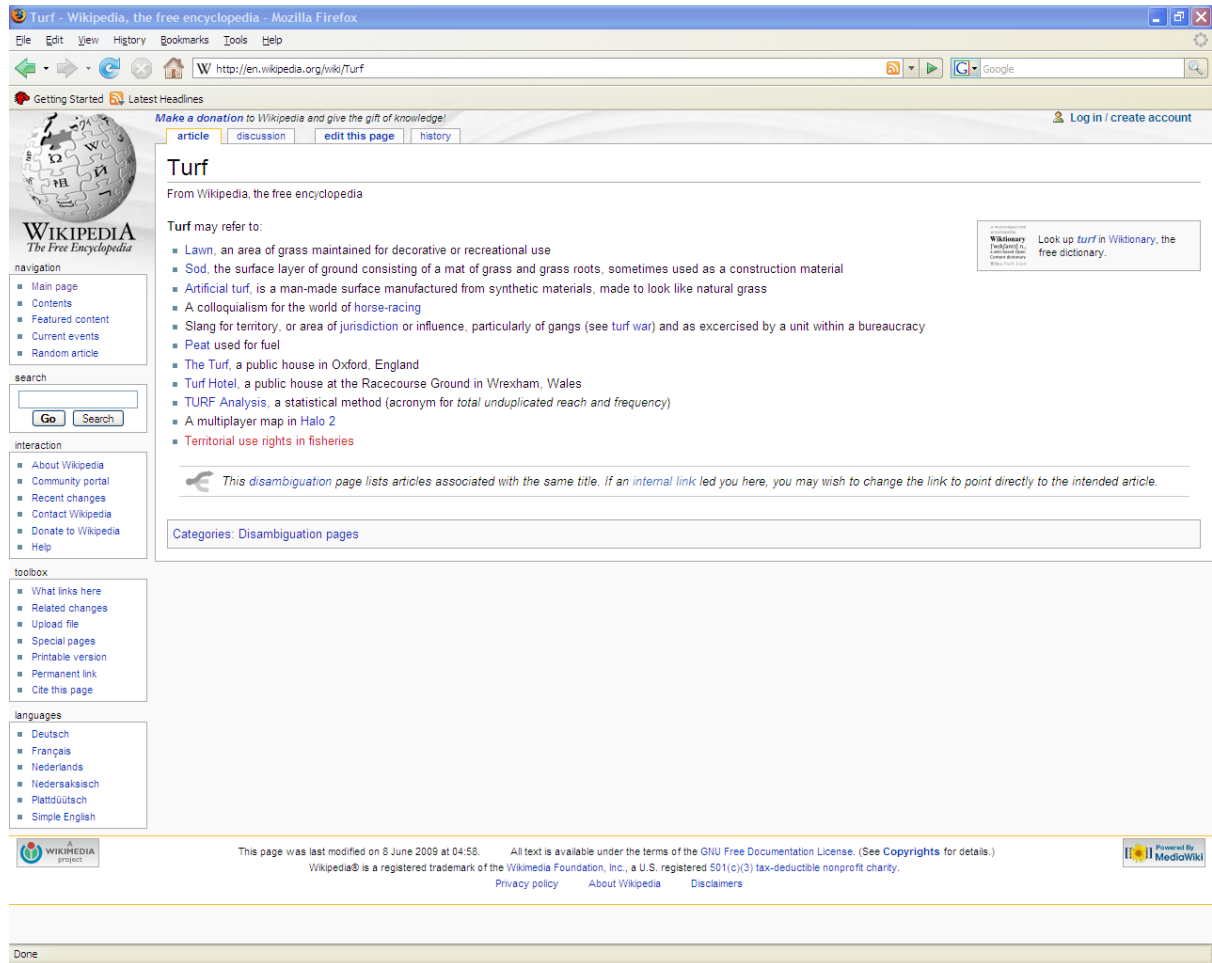


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Turf

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Turf may refer to:

- Lawn, an area of grass maintained for decorative or recreational use
- Sod, the surface layer of ground consisting of a mat of grass and grass roots, sometimes used as a construction material
- Artificial turf, is a man-made surface manufactured from synthetic materials, made to look like natural grass
- A colloquialism for the world of horse-racing
- Slang for territory, or area of jurisdiction or influence, particularly of gangs (see turf war) and as exercised by a unit within a bureaucracy
- Peat used for fuel
- The Turf, a public house in Oxford, England
- Turf Hotel, a public house at the Racecourse Ground in Wrexham, Wales
- TURF Analysis, a statistical method (acronym for *total unduplicated reach and frequency*)
- A multiplayer map in Halo 2
- Territorial use rights in fisheries**

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TURF

o A NATURAL SINK FOR CARBON DIOXIDE

Turf plays a positive role in combating the build up of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases caused by the burning of fossil fuels and a range of other human activities. By seizing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it in the soil, it can produce oxygen more efficiently than trees. In fact, just five square metres of turf produces enough oxygen for one person for a day, with the average yard capturing carbon and producing enough oxygen for a family of four each day.

o REDUCING HEAT

Turf makes your surrounding environment cooler and increases the cooling capacity of your home. It has the cooling effect of nine tonnes of air conditioning. Consider that the average home air conditioner has a three to four tonne capacity, while at the same time increasing carbon dioxide emissions.

Meanwhile, the temperature of a turfed lawn in Australian mid-summer conditions is 10°C lower than bare soil, 20°C lower than asphalt, concrete or pebble mulch and 40°C lower than synthetic turf. Turf also provides a greater cooling effect than trees and is equal in effect to an open water pool or lake - but is 40 percent less wasteful in water evaporation.

o REPLENISHING AND IMPROVING SOIL QUALITY

Studies have shown that turf is the most cost-effective method for controlling wind and water erosion to the land, while also binding soil much more effectively than artificial turf or mulch. Additionally, this living biological system absorbs carbon into the soil where it is transformed through worm activity into rich organic soil.

o A BIOLOGICAL FILTER

Acting as a natural form of pollution control, turfsures only pure water is left to recharge Australia's ground water supplies. With mature grass swards using less water than mature trees or shrubs, a healthy lawn actually absorbs six times more rainfall than a wheat field and four times more than a hay field.

o HEALTH BENEFITS

As a result of increasing urbanisation and deforestation, a major benefit of turf is that it reduces noise and heat which, in turn, reduces stress. It also improves air quality and helps to keep cities and towns clean. It has also been found that when people live or work close to nature they are more relaxed and therefore less susceptible to high blood pressure, stress and depression. Turf is also the ideal surface for recreational activities, and the safest surface for outdoor leisure activities.

o TURF IN AUSTRALIA

There are five key species of turf in Australia – Buffalo, Carpet Grass, Couch, Kikuyu and Tall Fescue. Each has different colours, blade thicknesses and climate preferences. It can be laid at any time of the year, however, winter and cooler weather is best as less water is required. It is quick and easy to install, plus maintenance is simple as it requires little to no weeding.

Turf Australia is the industry body for turf producers and related industries, serving as a link between the turf industry and other horticulture industries and agencies. Australia produces approximately 6 500 hectares of turf per year, while the turf industry employs more than 400 000 people in farming, landscaping, maintenance, management and design.

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