

City of

Marathon *Florida*

Press Release (#13-26) | CITY OF MARATHON
9805 Overseas Highway Marathon, Florida 33050
305-743-0033

For Immediate Release:



City announces new state synthetic turf standards for homeowners

MARATHON, FL (May 25, 2026) -- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has adopted a new rule for synthetic turf installation on single-family residences, establishing stricter standards than those previously adhered to by the city.

The new statewide rule went into effect on Wednesday, May 19, 2026.

The state DEP adopted Rule 62-308.100, implementing state law Section 125.572, Florida Statutes, which conditions that, on single-family residential properties 1 acre or less, local governments may not regulate synthetic turf in a manner inconsistent with these minimum standards.

The new standards address material safety, drainage and stormwater performance, water quality protections, irrigation restrictions, tree protection, and setbacks from waterbodies and environmentally sensitive areas. Among other provisions, synthetic turf must be permeable, free of intentionally added PFAS and heavy metals, and installed in a manner that does not increase stormwater runoff or negatively impact adjacent properties or natural systems.

City residents considering synthetic turf installation should be aware of the following:

- In-ground irrigation systems cannot be used to irrigate synthetic turf areas;
- Synthetic turf shall not be installed within a swale, ditch, stormwater pond, or a stormwater pond's littoral zone;
- Synthetic turf shall be installed no closer than 10 feet from a natural or man-made waterbody, measured from the ordinary or mean high water line;
- Synthetic turf shall not be installed inside tree drip lines unless a certified arborist certifies that installation within that drip line would not be harmful to the tree; and
- Synthetic turf shall be anchored at all edges and seams and must, at a minimum, withstand the effects of wind or flooding.

The City of Marathon remains committed to protecting water quality, natural resources, and community character while ensuring compliance with evolving state standards. City staff will review existing ordinances to determine if additional language needs to be added to land development regulations to ensure compliance with these minimum standards.

For information, contact the City of Marathon Planning Department at 305-743-0033 or Planning@ci.marathon.fl.us

Chris Seymour, City of Marathon Public Information Officer
Email: pio@ci.marathon.fl.us Cell: 645-206-4368

For inquiries, contact: City of Marathon, 305-743-0033