

# Public Review Draft

Proposed Addendum b to Standard 189.1-2023

# Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

Second Public Review (September 2024)  
(Draft Shows Proposed Changes to First Public Review Draft)

This draft has been recommended for public review by the responsible project committee. To submit a comment on this proposed standard, go to the ASHRAE website at [www.ashrae.org/standards-research-technology/public-review-drafts](http://www.ashrae.org/standards-research-technology/public-review-drafts) and access the online comment database. The draft is subject to modification until it is approved for publication by the Board of Directors and ANSI. Until this time, the current edition of the standard (as modified by any published addenda on the ASHRAE website) remains in effect. The current edition of any standard may be purchased from the ASHRAE Online Store at [www.ashrae.org/bookstore](http://www.ashrae.org/bookstore) or by calling 404-636-8400 or 1-800-727-4723 (for orders in the U.S. or Canada).

This standard is under continuous maintenance. To propose a change to the current standard, use the change submittal form available on the ASHRAE website, [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org).

The appearance of any technical data or editorial material in this public review document does not constitute endorsement, warranty, or guaranty by ASHRAE of any product, service, process, procedure, or design, and ASHRAE expressly disclaims such.

© August 29, 2023 ASHRAE. This draft is covered under ASHRAE copyright. Permission to reproduce or redistribute all or any part of this document must be obtained from the ASHRAE Manager of Standards, 180 Technology Pkwy NW, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092. Phone: 404-636-8400, Ext. 1125. Fax: 404-321-5478. E-mail: [standards.section@ashrae.org](mailto:standards.section@ashrae.org).

**ASHRAE, 180 Technology Pkwy NW, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092**



© August 29, 2024 ASHRAE

*This draft is covered under ASHRAE copyright. The appearance of any technical data or editorial material in this publication document does not constitute endorsement, warranty, or guaranty by ASHRAE of any product, service, process, procedure, design or the like and ASHRAE expressly disclaims such. Permission to republish or redistribute must be obtained from the MOS.*

**(This foreword is not part of this standard. It is merely informative and does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard. It has not been processed according to the ANSI requirements for a standard and may contain material that has not been subject to public review or a consensus process. Unresolved objectors on informative material are not offered the right to appeal at ASHRAE or ANSI.)**

## **Foreword**

As climate change and aridification continue to impact water resources, it becomes important to consider conservation measures from every possible angle. Turfgrass is one of the highest water use plants commonly found in landscapes in the built environment. This has been demonstrated by numerous studies that have been conducted since Denver Water pioneered the concept of replacing turfgrass with other plantings in the 1980s. Research in the 1990s and 2000s demonstrated that the concept saved significant water and that savings occur in a variety of environments (as shown by utility studies, the Bureau of Reclamation's National Xeriscape Demonstration Project and the Alliance for Water Efficiency's Landscape Transformation Study), with the most savings typically found in arid settings where significant irrigation volumes are required to sustain grass.

One highly effective way that jurisdictions can save water with minimal impact is by prohibiting non-functional irrigated turfgrass in new or improved development. Broadly, non-functional grass is purely or dominantly decorative turfgrass, found along streets and in medians and traffic circles, in parking areas, in the landscaping of businesses, and at vehicular entryways.

As the drought in the western United States has worsened, municipalities, states, and whole regions have started efforts to remove or reduce the amount of non-functional turfgrass in existing developments to reduce water demands. Standard 189.1 can complement and inform these efforts by providing communities with an option stopping the spread of new non-functional turfgrass within their jurisdiction and should do so in a timely manner. This draft addendum creates a Jurisdictional Option (JO) that prohibits future non-functional turfgrass where this is of concern. It should be noted that while it is envisioned communities in arid areas will be the most interested in this JO, water shortages can occur for reasons other than being in a dry environment, such as water system treatment and distribution limitations or source water impairment. As such, this may be of interest to a significant set of AHJs.

***[Note to Reviewers: This addendum makes proposed changes to the current standard. These changes are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strikethrough~~ (for deletions) except where the reviewer instructions specifically describe some other means of showing the changes. Only these changes to the current standard are open for review and comment at this time. Additional material is provided for context only and is not open for comment except as it relates to the proposed changes.]***

## Addendum b to 189.1-2023, Second Public Review, ISC

---

*Revise Section 3 by adding the following:*

### 3. Definitions

**turfgrass, functional:** *turfgrass* that is within areas designated on the site plans for any of the following:

- a. recreational use ~~by the public~~
- b. ~~dedicated~~ sports fields
- c. driving ranges
- d. burial grounds
- e. vegetated pavers
- f. vegetated roofs
- g. minimum fire apparatus access as required by the *AHJ* via the International Fire Code
- h. animal exercise and relief

**turfgrass, non-functional:** *turfgrass* that is not *functional turfgrass*

...

*Revise Table 4.2 with new JO*

**Table 4.2 Requirements Determined by the Jurisdiction** (Normative in the IgCC)

Section	Section Title, Description and Directives	Jurisdictional Requirement
6.3.1.3	<b>Irrigation of Non-functional turfgrass</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No

*Add Section 6.3.1.3 and renumber subsequent sections*

**[JO] 6.3.1.3 Irrigation of Non-functional turfgrass.** Installation of an irrigation system for *non-functional turfgrass* in new development and *improved landscapes* shall be prohibited.