

***The question was asked, “Does reducing grass increase our carbon print?”***

*The economy, quality of life and environment of the Antelope Valley and all of California depend in large upon the water resources of the State. PWD’s goal is to provide reliable water supplies to its customers and to protect the environment. Palmdale Water District provides rebates such as “Cash for Grass” to its customers to help conserve our precious water supply. The District encourages keeping trees, shrubs, and planting materials in the landscape and reducing the amount of turf in the front yard to help dwindling water supplies.*



*Grass does produce oxygen as well as every other very green plant does through a complex process called photosynthesis. Grass does not produce much net oxygen because of the type of carbon it produces. When grass dies, its carbon products (sugars and starches) use up oxygen and release carbon dioxide when it decays. If an animal eats the grass, oxygen is used by the animal’s digestive process to turn the grass into energy. Thus grass is a poor producer of oxygen.*

*Protecting our environment by reducing our carbon footprint is one way everyone can help keep our planet in good health. Here are a few ways everyone can help:*

***Adopt water-saving habits***

- *Take shorter, less frequent showers-this not only saves water, but the energy necessary to heat it.*
- *Don't use the garbage disposal. Compost instead.*
- *Run the dishwasher and the laundry machine only when full.*
- *Wash cars rarely, or better yet, take them to a carwash.*
- *Regularly look for and fix leaks.*

***Adopt energy-saving habits***

- *Keep thermostat relatively low in winter and ease up on the air conditioning in summer.*
- *Unplug your electronics when not in use.*

***Reduce your Food Footprint***

- *Eat more local, organic, in-season foods.*
- *Choose foods with less packaging to reduce waste.*

***Reduce your Housing Footprint***

- *Choose efficient appliances, including low flow shower heads, faucets, and toilets.*
- *Plant drought tolerant plants in your garden and yard.*

### ***Reduce your Goods and Services Footprint***

- *Recycle all your paper, glass, aluminum, and plastic. Don't forget electronics!*
- *Buy recycled products, particularly those labeled "post-consumer waste."*