



# TURFMUTT BARKS for LIVING LANDSCAPES

Many families and communities are being told to rip out their lawns due to drought and replace them with rocks, mulch, cacti and artificial grass. But these changes could do more harm than good! Grown-ups, kids and pets can enjoy their backyard during a drought—and be good environmental stewards. Find the right grass for your climate.

## Don't remove your lawn and let the bad guys move in.



**DUST DEMON** hurls dirt, pollutants and other particles into the air, taking precious soil to places it doesn't need to go.



**DR. RUNOFF** stalks rainstorms, pushing rainwater from cement, pavement and other hard surfaces into streams, picking up nasty chemicals and pollutants along the way.



**HEAT FREAK** bakes areas like patches of pavement that don't have the luxury of cool tree shade and grass to cool them.



**CARBON CREEP** is the single-biggest cause of climate change. He struts around the atmosphere, puffing up his chest and increasing the greenhouse effect with every breath.

## Never fear... TurfMutt is here!



TurfMutt and the Outdoor Powers know living landscapes matter. Drought-tolerant grass, trees and other plants help fight evil forces that attack our environment. They also provide a safe place for kids and pets to play.



**PROFESSOR BOTANY** instructs you to plant grass, trees, shrubs and other living landscapes to provide food and habitat for backyard wildlife.

**LUCKY the TURFMUTT** wants you to remember that the outdoors starts in your own backyard! Help him and the Outdoor Powers eliminate the Environmental Villains by being a backyard superhero.



**BIG ROOTY** wants you to plant trees that grow strong roots to keep soil in place and big leafy tops to topple Heat Freak.



**GREEN RANGER** reminds you that planting the right grass for your climate helps defeat Dr. Runoff, slow soil erosion, remove Carbon Creep from the atmosphere, and cool Heat Freak.



**WATER WARRIOR** warns you not to overwater! Be sure to capture his rainfall with living landscapes.

## Will you help TurfMutt by being a backyard superhero and taking care of your living landscapes? Nature starts at your backdoor.



The TurfMutt program, created in conjunction with Scholastic, the global children's publishing, education and media company, includes lesson plans for teachers, take home sheets and learning activities for families, a website and blog, interactive games and a digital storybook.



1. Source: <http://www.agsod.com/pdfs/Trees-Are-Sacred-Grass-Is-Bad-Why.pdf> Citation: Duble, R. L. Impact of Turfgrass. Retrieved April 25, 2005, from <http://agro302.tamu.edu/agro302-700+rduble/ppt/intro2.pdf>  
 2. Source: National Association of Landscape Professionals, <https://www.loveyourlandscape.com/LYL/LYL/Benefits-of-Landscapes.aspx>