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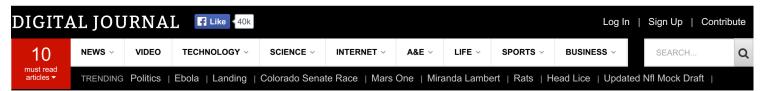


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California city bans artificial grass

BY KIM I. HARTMAN NOV 17, 2011 IN ODD NEWS

Glendale - City leaders in Glendale, California, have approved a ban on artificial grass and have begun issuing warning tickets to violators.





Code enforcement officers have issued six warning notices to residents who refuse to remove their artificial lawns which were banned by the city three months ago, reports the Glendale News-Press.

Mayor Laura Friedman cited "potential health hazards presented by high levels of lead in artificial turf in opposing changes to city codes that would



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allow property owners to install the faux grass in front yards." The city council voted in August to continue the ban on artificial grass in front yards of homes throughout the city.

"When asked why the fake grass would continue to be allowed in backyards, officials had no answer," according to CBS Los Angeles.

Proponents of artificial grass say it saves water, is visually appealing and doesn't require the maintenance of a traditional lawn.

At least one turf company has stated that "while some artificial lawns contain lead, there is no harm posed to children or adults." But the city isn't willing to budge, refusing to end the ban on artificial lawns in the front yard of its neighborhood homes. City officials say they are willing to press criminal charges against those who refuse to comply with the order.

One city resident, Geneva Dotson, told KCAL9 she was upset about having to remove her fairly recently installed \$3000 artificial lawn. Dotson decided not to fight the city, she said, "There's enough drama in life without having the city breathing down my back. I'm very angry about it, to tell you the truth."

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