

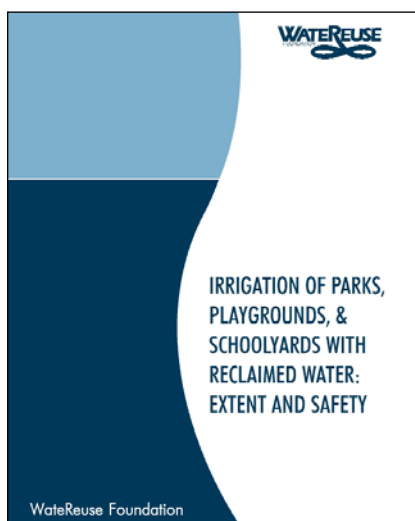
Project PROFILE



www.WateReuse.org/Foundation

Advancing the Science of Water Reuse and Desalination through Research

Irrigation of Parks, Playgrounds, and Schoolyards with Reclaimed Water: Extent and Safety



Product Number: 04-006-01

WRF Subscribers: \$15

WRA Members: \$25

Others: \$45

Project Number

WRF-04-006

Author

James Crook, Ph.D., P.E.,
Water Reuse Consultant

The use of reclaimed water for the irrigation of parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and similar areas is widespread in the United States. Recently, there have been instances where the safety of the practice has been questioned by the public and others.

Proposed projects in California and elsewhere have been delayed or modified due to opposition, and the safety of some existing projects has been called into question. The major issue revolves around health concerns asso-

ciated with the use of reclaimed water for landscape irrigation of areas subject to access and use by children.

Reclaimed water has been used for crop irrigation for more than 100 years, landscape irrigation for more than 70 years, and indirect potable reuse for more than 40 years.

Landscape irrigation of areas subject to unrestricted public access has emerged as one of the major uses of reclaimed water in the last two decades.

Both the quantity of reclaimed water used for the irrigation of parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and similar areas and the number of individual use areas have increased substantially in the last 30 years, particularly during the last decade.

Objectives

In response to the health and safety concerns that have been raised, the WaterReuse Foundation commissioned this report to evaluate the safety of park, playground, and schoolyard irrigation with reclaimed water and to document the extent of the practice in the United States.

The information contained in this report is based on—and pertains to—the use of reclaimed water for the irrigation of parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and school grounds in the United States, which has a long history of reusing treated municipal wastewater for beneficial purposes.

Benefits

This report documents the number of individual parks, playgrounds, and schoolyard sites irrigated with reclaimed water across the United States, and presents the data by geographic region. It assembles data that shows that there are minimal health concerns associated with chemical constituents where reclaimed water is used for landscape irrigation.

Highlights

- There are more than 200 water reclamation facilities in the United States, providing reclaimed water to more than 1,600 individual park, playground, and schoolyard sites.
- Pesticides, heavy metals, and organic chemicals are usually reduced to acceptably low levels during wastewater treatment and would not be expected to present any risks to health from incidental contact, ingestion, or inhalation of reclaimed water used for landscape irrigation.
- Irrigation of parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and schoolyards with highly treated and disinfected reclaimed water is safe and does not present any known health risks to children or others who frequent those sites that are measurably different than risks associated with irrigation using potable water.

Order Form



Yes! Send me _____ cop(ies) of the WaterReuse Foundation research report entitled *Irrigation of Parks, Playgrounds, and Schoolyards with Reclaimed Water: Extent and Safety* (Product No. 04-006-01, WRF Subscribers: \$15, WRA Members: \$25, Others: \$45)

Price _____

I would also like to order the following other WaterReuse Foundation research products:

Qty	Title	Product Number	Price
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Shipping and Handling

Standard Delivery	Delivery Time	Rate
Domestic	4-8 business days	\$5.00 for the first book \$3.50 for each additional book
International	8-12 business days	\$15.00 for the first book \$10.00 for each additional book

Delivery times are estimates and only apply to items in stock. Business days are Monday through Friday, excluding holidays observed by the Post Office and UPS.

Subtotal: _____

Shipping and Handling: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Name _____ Organization _____

Street Address (No P.O. Boxes) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Payment Method:

Check Enclosed

Credit Card

MasterCard Visa American Express

Account No. _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature: _____

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER

(1) FAX form to 703-548-5085

(2) www.WateReuse.org/Foundation

(3) Mail form to:

WaterReuse Foundation
1199 North Fairfax Street, Suite 410
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: (703) 548-0880
Fax: (703) 548-5085
www.WateReuse.org/Foundation

Other Research Products

Best Practices for Developing Indirect Potable Reuse Projects: Phase 1 Report (Product No. 01-004-01)

Water Reuse Economic Framework Workshop Report (Product No. 03-006-01)

About the Foundation

The mission of the WaterReuse Foundation is to conduct and promote applied research on the reclamation, recycling, reuse, and desalination of water.