

Sustainability Initiatives²⁰²⁵



Our Environment is Everything

turfdesign.com

We'll walk through

Our Manifesto

Designing for Efficiency

Upcycled Pre-Consumer Content
Less Waste Through Better Design
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Product Reuse Program + Waste Diversion
Our Carbon Footprint

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Design Community



Our Manifesto

Earth's environment is vibrant — it's the most complex system in the universe.

Its ecosystems are entire worlds:
they *breathe, build, break, & begin* again.

At Turf, we believe the products we make,
the people we serve, and the planet
we inhabit are inextricably linked.

The natural and built environments are in constant conversation and because of that, the work of building a sustainable practice is never done.



What if our economy were circular — not just producing, consuming, and discarding, but...designing products to last, with lasting appeal, so when you want to use them longer, they outlast expectations; sourcing up-cycled materials, and finding them a new home when the time is right; and making every product to-order, with techniques that reduce onsite waste.

We believe that together, **a better process is possible.**

A process that benefits people as much as nature, that uplifts our communities and our planet, and designs for all needs and ability levels, with exhaustive attention and care — because our environment is everything.

Designing for Efficiency

We design our products to minimize waste by making every project to order, and by using material with at least 60% pre-consumer recycled content.



Upcycled Content ^(Pre-consumer)



We develop our products with a philosophy of simplicity, minimal adhesive, and limited use of hardware fasteners. That approach carries through with the selection of our material that has a high ratio of recycled content.

9mm PET Felt

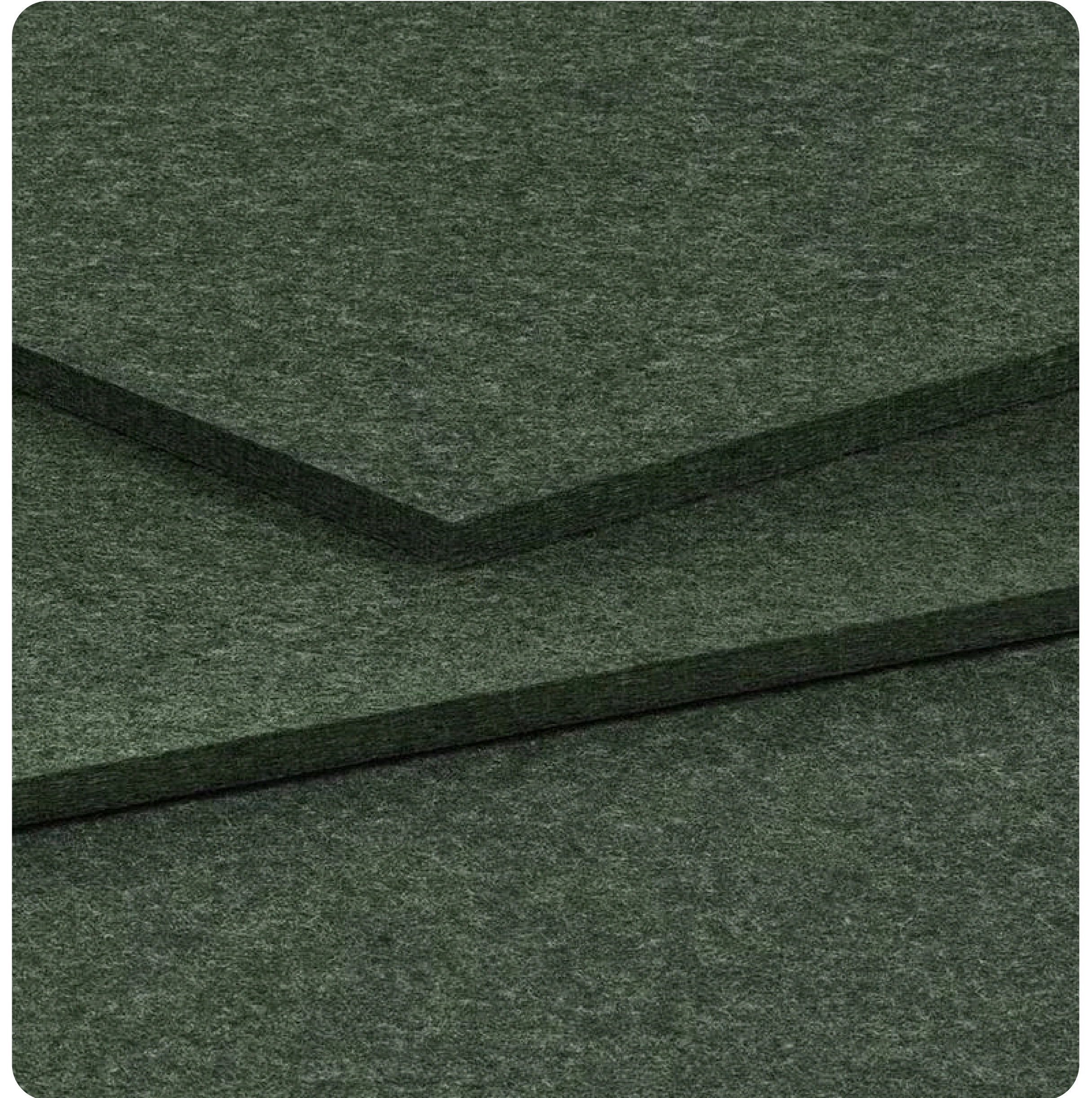
Contains a minimum of 60% pre-consumer recycled polyester fiber

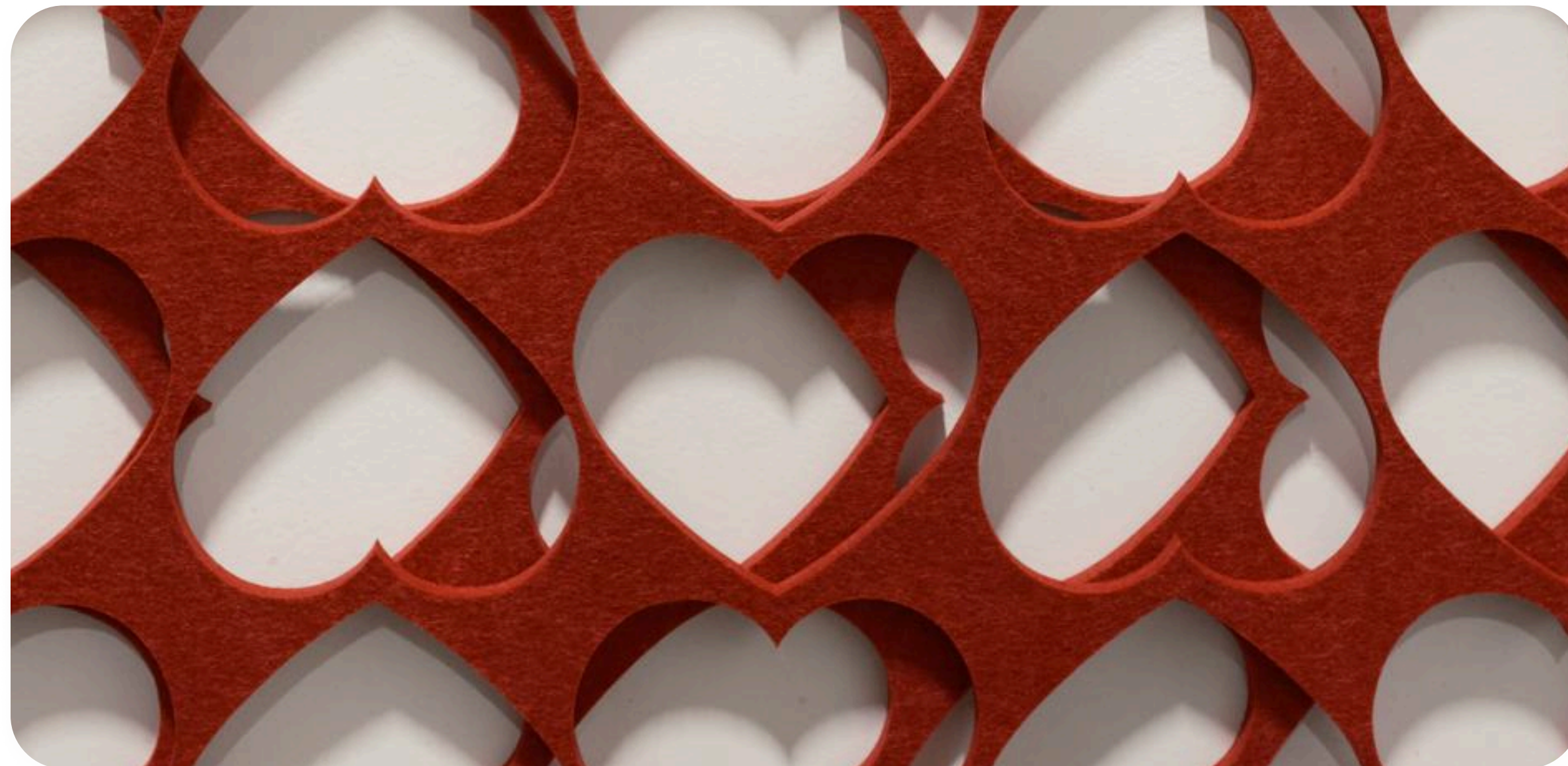
5mm PET Felt

(testing in progress)

3mm PET Felt

Contains a minimum of 60% pre-consumer recycled polyester fiber





Better Design

Throughout Turf’s design process we use tools to optimize yields, reduce scrap, and waste less.

Design

Turf was a leader in purchasing nesting software at the beginning of the company, and we keep that philosophy going by manually reviewing *all* of our cut-files. This helps us to find even more material efficiency and waste reduction from the nested parts.

We prototype using partial sheets and scrap. Prototyping helps us figure out the details ahead of manufacturing the full project scope, saving time and material.

Our computational design team helps to streamline product development and projects by developing tools for our designers.

Developing New Product

All new products receive extreme scrutiny to optimize material efficiency, reduce complexity, and minimize the use of adhesive and fasteners.

Manufacturing Process

We are always working to improve processes and minimize internal rework. A first article review enables all product to be verified and approved prior to a whole project being made. These efforts limit material waste and energy consumption.

Certifications

We are continually testing our products and materials using the highest industry standards. In the testing process, material and product data is submitted for review and approval. We are working with external partners to achieve “Third Party Verified” status for some of our certifications.



Declare - *3rd party verified*
The Declare Label is a product transparency disclosure that identifies where a product comes from, what it's made of, and where it goes at the end of its life. We did the extra step of certifying this with a 3rd Party, not only with Declare.



Red List Free
Certifies that a product contains no harmful chemicals at 100ppm listed on the Living Building Challenge’s Red List.



GREENGUARD Gold - *3rd party verified*
Certifies low chemical emissions for improved indoor air quality, especially in sensitive environments like schools and healthcare.



Clean Air Gold (*5mm only*)
Certifies very low emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other pollutants for healthy indoor air.



HPD - *3rd party verification in progress*
The Health Product Declaration is a detailed reporting of product contents and their potential health impacts.



Material EPD - *3rd party verified*
Certifies the quantified environmental impact of a product across its lifecycle.



Certified Recycled Content - *3rd party verified*
Certification ensures transparency and accuracy in claims about the use of recycled materials, promoting sustainability and reducing reliance on virgin resources.

Project Contributions

Turf products, and the material we use, can contribute to your project certifications. Even if you don't pursue a formal certification, you'll know that the product's affect on wellness and the material's recycled content are a smart choice for your project.



LEED Scoreboard

When used as a part of an overall strategy, all Turf products can help contribute to LEED points in the following categories:

Building Product Disclosure and Optimization

- Red List Free - Declare Label (3mm & 9mm), Third Party verified
- Health Product Declaration, HPD (3mm & 9mm) Third Party verified
- Product Specific EPD
- Declare Label (5mm)
- Health Product Declaration, (5mm)
- 60% pre-consumer recycled content, (3mm & 9mm) Third party verified

Low Emitting Material

- Clean Air Gold (5 mm)
- Indoor Advantage Gold (3mm, 9mm)
- CDPH Emissions Standard v1.2, Tested and third-party verified

Occupant Experience

(under: Indoor Environmental Quality)

- Turf 3mm, 5mm, and 9mm product contributes to acoustical criteria

Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion (under: Materials Diversion)

- Material Reuse Program

LIVING BUILDING Challenge

Our Declare Red List Free and Third-Party Certified PET felt can contribute to the Materials Petal imperative in the Living Building Challenge 4.1

- Feature 8 - Healthy Interior Environment: CDPH Compliant, Red List Free
- Feature 81 - Sound Barriers: Declare Label, Red List Free



WELL Certification v1 and v2 Building Standards

Turf Design's third-party sustainable PET felt may contribute to the following WELL Concepts and attributed points:

SOUND

S05 Sound Reducing Surfaces

Part 1: Implement Sound Reducing Surfaces, reference each product's NRC rating.

S06 Minimum Background Sound

Part 2: Provide Enhanced Speech Reduction, reference each product's NRC rating.

MIND

M02 Provide Connection to Nature

Part 1a: Provide Connection to Nature through materials, patterns, shapes, images or sounds.

MATERIALS

X06 VOC Restrictions

Part 2: Restrict VOC Emissions from Furniture, Architectural and Interior, reference Green guard Gold (3mm and 9mm products) and Clean Air Gold (5mm products).

X07 Materials Transparency

Part 3: Select Products with Third-Party Verified Ingredients, reference Red List Free (Declare), and Material EPD for (3mm and 9mm).



Designing for Nuance + Longevity

We design our products with mature and nuanced aesthetics. Our installations are meant to last, and we can even work with you to rehome lightly used, standard product.



Circularity and End of Life

Product Reuse Program



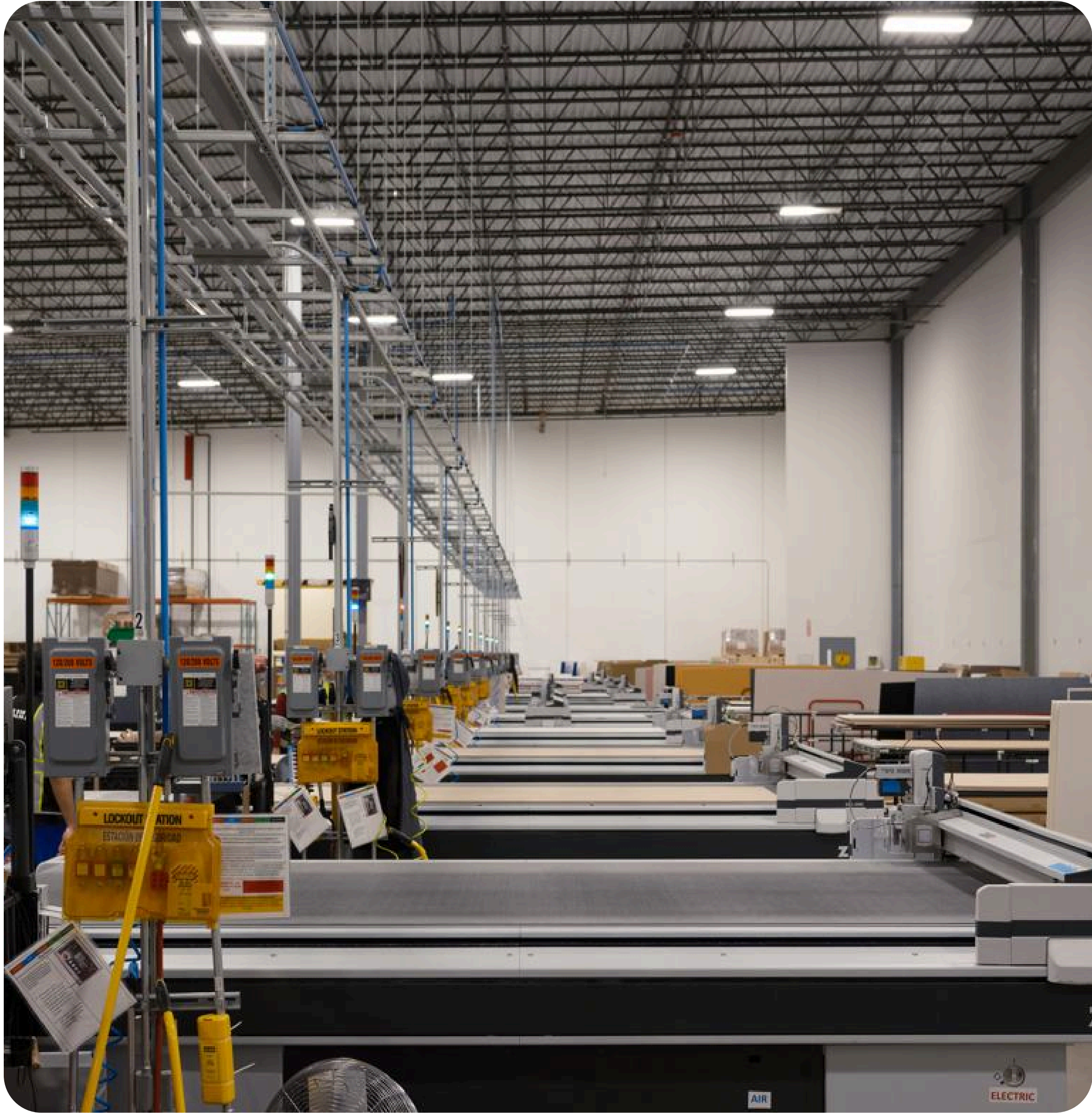
Our Product Reuse Program, launching in February 2025, connects deinstalled standard product with nonprofit projects to find a forever home and prevent landfill waste. Turf has a long-term partnership with Designs 4 Dignity (D4D), a Chicago nonprofit that works like a match-maker for donated products and nonprofit projects.



Waste Diversion



The waste material from every project is collected and bailed. Turf works with a local facility to divert 40 tons of material per month away from landfill. Our partner uses a waste-to-energy process to burn the material at such a high temperature as to minimize emissions. The resulting energy is sent back to the local grid.



Turf's Carbon Footprint

Turf's manufacturing facility is in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Our processes only use materials and electricity made offsite.

This means that Turf's carbon footprint is inherently small and classified primarily as Scope 2 and 3 emissions.

Scope 1

Direct contribution of greenhouse gases into the environment through fossil fuel emissions, gas combustion, and fugitive emissions.

Scope 2

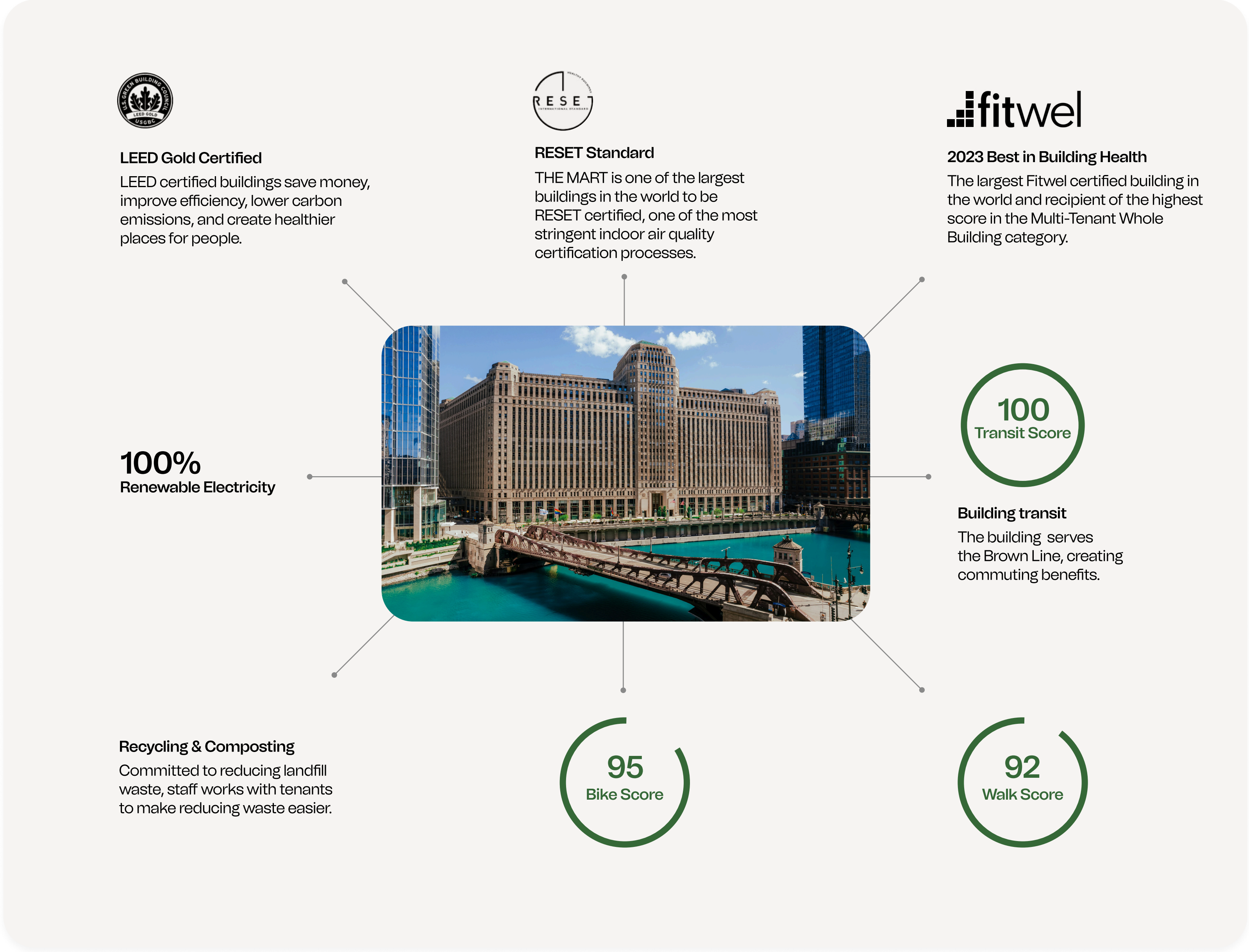
Any indirect emissions from the purchase of energy for our own use, such as electricity, heat, and cooling.

Scope 3

The production of purchased materials, transportation of goods and people, waste disposal, and water consumption.

Turf's Carbon Footprint

The Turf Design Experience Center is located in the heart of the Chicago design community at the Merchandise Mart.

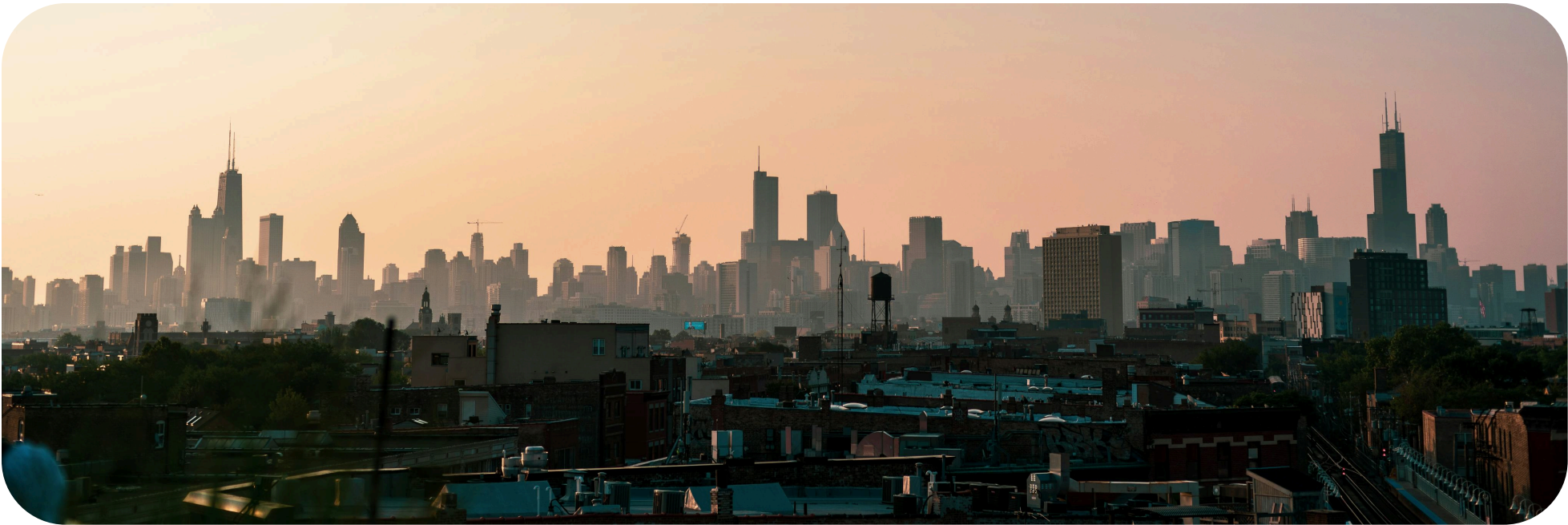


Designing for Human Impact

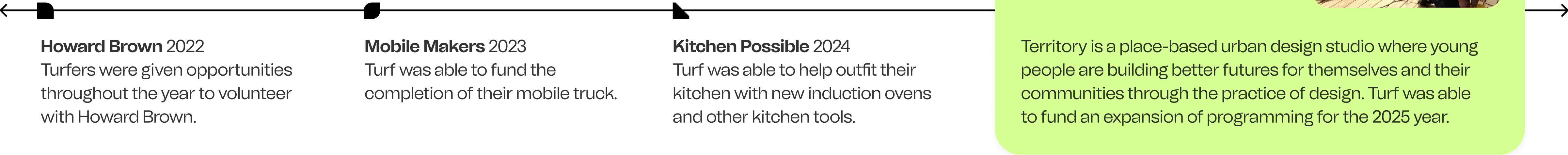
We approach design through the lens of our community. From philanthropic partnerships to mentoring the next generation of designers, Turf is focused on the long game.



Donations and Community Initiatives



Each year Turf selects a local, Chicago community organization to become a new philanthropic partner. Our main goal is to connect with our community, and make a meaningful impact at a meaningful scale.



Design Community

Education

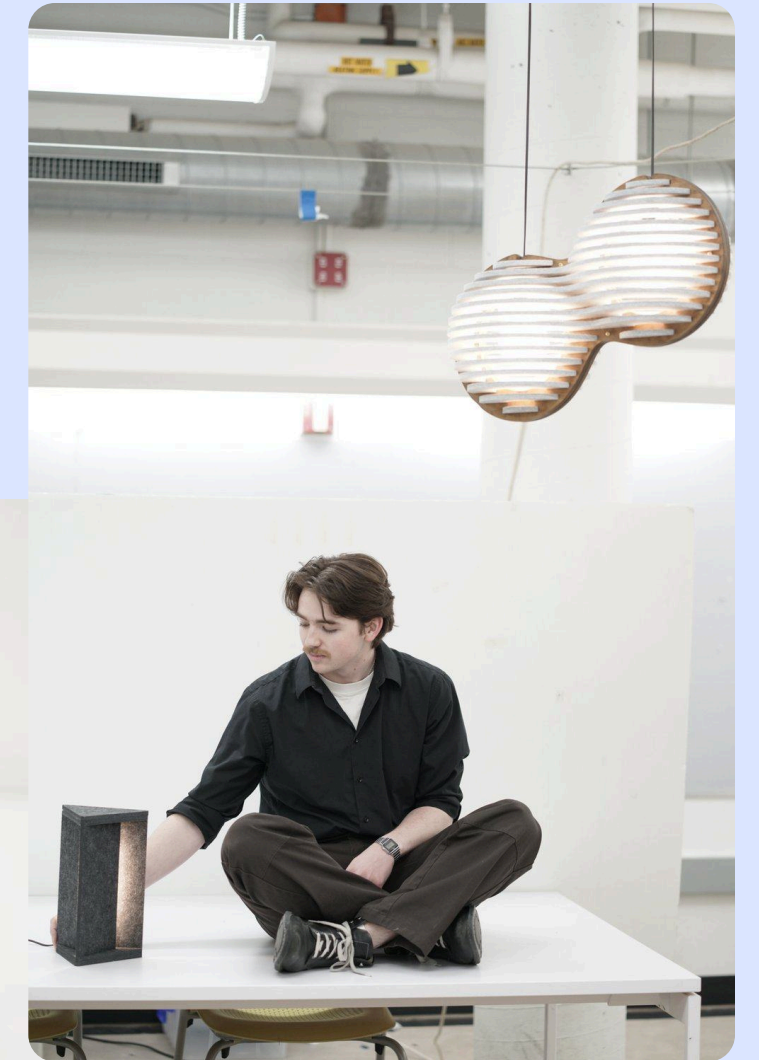
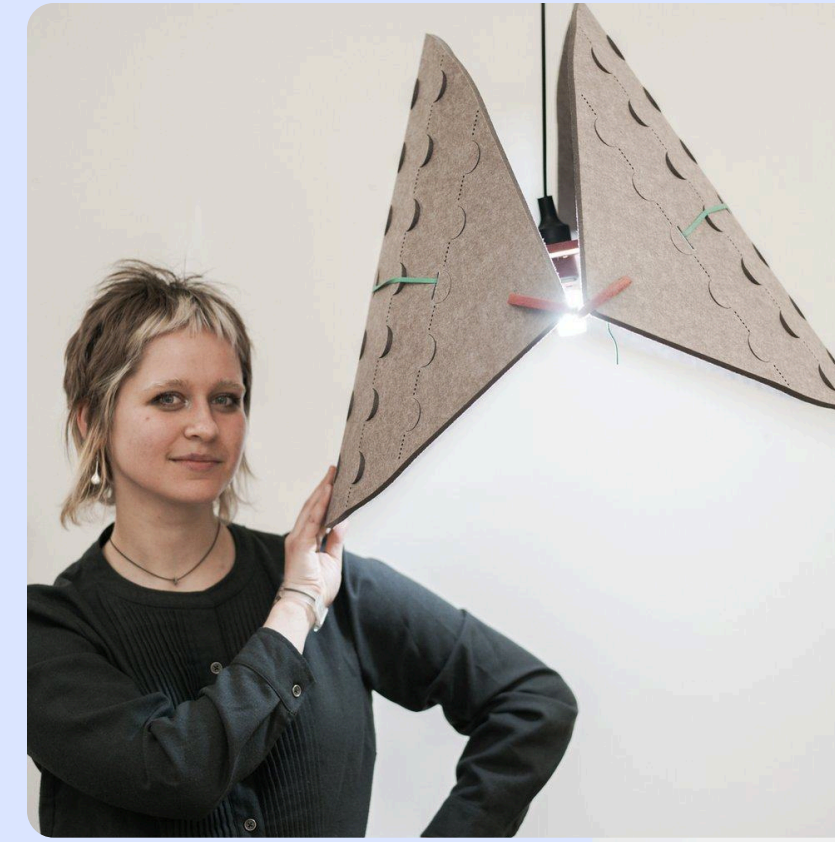
UIC x Turf - 2024

Turf designers worked with two Industrial Design classes at the University of Illinois Chicago throughout a full semester, providing donated material, project feedback and support, as well as participating in critiques.

The 30 students got to explore the material; getting to know it's versatility, material properties, and how to construct designed objects with it. The students were invited to Turf so we could cut their projects on our Zund and give them first-hand experience with the manufacturing process.

IIT x Turf - 2025

Turf is looking forward to working with IIT grad students this year!



Have an idea you want to run by us,
or looking for more info?

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