

Republican Perspective
26 August 2015
by Ed Manning

Droughtful Opportunities

“You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before.” Rahm Emanuel

In the fourth year of a serious drought, it is somewhat perplexing as to why progressive environmentalists and their go-along politicians have not seriously attacked the dark green grass of high school, college, semi-pro and professional baseball fields. They are wasting this crisis of change you can believe in.

Why should sports fields be exempt from the environmentalist's extinction? After all, beautiful lawns and landscape must wilt because the zealots have blocked the construction of new reservoirs and dams while California's population has nearly doubled.

Look folks we are talking a lot of grass. There are 88 community college baseball teams, 12 minor league and 5 major league teams. Not to mention the thousands of high school teams. Progressive environmentalists should demand that Governor Brown edict sandlot baseball fields! This would be no different than edicts on energy from alternative sources or on miles per gallon automobiles must obtain. It would be no different than unelected bureaucrats declaring “spare the air” days and having neighbors reporting on neighbors that dare to burn their fireplaces.

Sandlots are dirt fields that will require little manicuring. California would just be extending the current infields of baseball parks to the entire field. Viewers from across the nation watching our major league teams will be extremely pleased that we are serious about saving water. Since other teams are use to playing on grass, our California stalwarts may have a competitive advantage! Just think how exciting the World Series could be if played on dirt and dust.

Progressive environmentalists should not stop with baseball. Sandlot fields should next be mandated to all football venues. The 49'ers have had to replace the grass turf on their new Santa Clara stadium multiple times. This would not be necessary with all natural dirt. The Super Bowl played on a sea of brown with dust billowing into the air for the 1% to breathe that can afford a ticket will make the Occupy movement ecstatic. It would truly rally the Democratic base! How about changing the annual Cal-Stanford tussle from the “Big Game” to the “Dirt Bowl”?

Just think how the rest of the world will view California's progressiveness. If Governor Brown acts before the United Nations Climate Change Conference in December,

California will be hailed for saving the planet. Mandating dirt fields for all baseball and football will just be a start. Next comes soccer and then golf.

When it comes to golf, California's most beautiful terrains should first be relegated to dirt. Progressive environmentalists should attack the courses on the Monterey Peninsula with vigor. Pebble Beach Golf Club, Spyglass, the Links at Spanish Bay and Poppy Hills all should be returned to sand. Private courses like the Olympic Club, San Francisco Golf Club, Monterey Peninsula CC, Bel Air County Club, Riveria Country Club, etc should be given two weeks to comply to the "dirt first" policy or be taken over by eminent domain.

By addressing these prestigious golf courses, California's progressive environmentalists will demonstrate that they are not beholden to the likes of their Hollywood bankrollers and to Tom Steyer. They can simply give them a wink and a nod while quietly telling them to jump on one of their solar-powered private jets for a round of golf elsewhere.

But more water saving opportunities exist! The lush green grass of polo fields in Santa Barbara, Pacific Palisades and Indio should all go brown. Let's be honest, polo and its spectators have a disparate impact on the communities of the huddled masses. Horses don't need grass to chase a polo ball.

Now some of you might be thinking that this guy is smoking the grass that he wishes to kill. No, this is just a satire on how the impact of radical policies ruin the pleasures of day-to day living. I don't know about you but I really enjoy lugging my oh so attractive "green" five-gallon bucket out of the shower - will I be able to lift it when I'm 90? Will nearly half of our rainfall still go to the ocean? Will the Delta smelt be overpopulated? Will Rossmoor have more saguaro cactus than oak trees? As for my five-gallon bucket, it's made from fossil fuels...