A Review of Benefits and Issues Associated with Natural Grass and Artificial Turf Rectangular Stadium Fields

Prepared by a Staff Work Group from Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery County Department of Parks, Montgomery County Council, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, and Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

September 15, 2011

Final Report

Appendix N

Part 1 of 4

All Comments Received on the Draft Report During the Public Comment Period (April 13, 2011 through June 7, 2011)

A Review of Benefits and Issues Associated with Natural and Artificial Turf Rectangular Stadium Fields

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September, 2011

Final Report

Appendix N

All Comments Received on the Draft Report During the Public Comment Period (April 13, 2011 through June 7, 2011)

Received by

Close of

Business

May 13, 2011

From: Lavorgna, Joseph (Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 1:21:14 PM
Cc:
Subject: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

On July 1, 2010, the Montgomery County Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment (T&E) Committee held a meeting with staffs from Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Montgomery County Department of Parks (Parks), Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss health and safety issues associated with artificial turf fields in Montgomery County.

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The draft report is attached or may be found at: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/at_report_with_appendices.pdf

Comments on this draft report should be submitted to TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com by close of business on May 13, 2011. Hard copy comments will be received at:

MCPS Department of Facilities Management, 2096 Gaither Road Rockville, MD 20850

A final report that will include a separate compilation of Public Comments received during the comment period will be assemble d presented to the T&E Committee for its review. The T&E Committee will decide the appropriate venue for discussion of the report and c comments.

Thank you,

The Staff Work Group

From: Lavorgna, Joseph (Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 2:25:30 PM
Cc:
Subject: Corrected web link

Please use the following link to the report on the County Council's website. The link sent in the original email has been changed. Apologies to all for the confusion.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/at_report_w_appendices4-13-2011.pdf

From: Shpur, Michael (Michael_Shpur@mcpsmd.org)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 2:37:00 PM
Cc:
Subject: Re: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

So far April is kicking spring sports schedule. Day after day are announcements of county park fields at regional parks with fields closed due to the weather. If not for the three FieldTurf fields already existing at 3 county high schools, there would be very few sporting events happening now.

From: Lavorgna, Joseph
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 01:21 PM
To: 'turfreportresponse@yahoo.com' <turfreportresponse@yahoo.com>
Subject: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

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Thank you,

The Staff Work Group

<<AT Report w Appendices April 13 2011.pdf>>

From: Quay, Amanda L (Amanda_L_Quay@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:15:54 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf for FH!

From what I read this sounds like an e-mail address where I can comment on the use of artificial turf fields in the county. If so, as a field hockey coach I must say that playing on a grass field not only poses a higher risk for injury, but deteriorates the true essence of the sport. What I mean is that I have witnessed games impeded by poor field conditions (something that would not occur with an artificial turf field).

Like many teams in the county, my field hockey field spans across the right and center fields of our baseball stadium. Part of our field is actual dirt (where second base would be on the diamond). When the weather is poor it takes days to get the field ready and safe for play. The numerous divots and dirt spots, crab grass and hills cause the ball to lift in the air threatening facial and head injuries. The uneven terrain is a minefield for weak ankles.

Field hockey is supposed to be a fast paced game of skill. When we play on grass it makes it more like a game of chance. I have seen players score not because of their ability or good judgment, but because they were lucky enough to find a gathering of weeds which kicked the ball up in the air and out of range of the goalie.

In short- grass fields slow the game, forces weather cancellations, takes away from the skill, and causes many injuries. Turf fields are the only way to go for this sport.

Amanda Quay
Damascus High School
Social Studies/Phys. Ed. Teacher
Varsity Field Hockey Coach
JV Softball Coach
Class of 2014 Sponsor

From: mcpd816@aol.com (mcpd816@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:21:21 PM
Cc:
Subject: I support turf fields

Turf fields are very important and needed badly in this county
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: KELLY HAHR (kelly1119@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:23:41 PM
Cc:
Subject: "Support Turf Field"

Kelly Hahr
VP of Sales and Marketing
Encore Select
1-813-919-9226 phone
1-888-472-3495 fax

From: KZeg@aol.com (KZeg@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:33:23 PM
Cc:
Subject: (no subject)

I support turf for Montgomery County Public School. Thank you. Bill Zegowitz

From: Kay (kayfw@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Wed, April 13, 2011 4:40:06 PM
Cc.
Subject: support turf fields

I completely support the use of turf fields.

From: wwsemuskie@aol.com (wwsemuskie@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:54:43 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Turf Fields

I truly **SUPPORT TURF FIELDS!!!** :-)

Thank you very much,

Wendy W. Semuskie
Damascus, MD

From: Lavorgna, Joseph (Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org)
To: office@mccpta.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 5:11:08 PM
Cc:
Subject: FW: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

Pam,
Please forward the message below to all cluster coordinators and high school PTSA presidents.
Thank you,
Turf Staff Work Group

On July 1, 2010, the Montgomery County Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment (T&E) Committee held a meeting with staffs from Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Montgomery County Department of Parks (Parks), Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss health and safety issues associated with artificial turf fields in Montgomery County.

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Thank you,

The Staff Work Group

From: Heffelfinger, Trish (trishheff@mdsoccerplex.org)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 4:56:55 PM
Cc:
Subject: RE: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

Joe
Congratulations on a very comprehensive report. The task force complied a very credible and balanced report on turf fields.

May the games begin!!

Trish

Trish Heffelfinger
Executive Director
Maryland Soccer Foundation
301-528-1480 (c)
301-540-4276 (fax)
trishheff@mdsoccerplex.org

SAM Soccer is Here!

From: Lavorgna, Joseph [mailto:Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 1:21 PM
To: 'turfreportresponse@yahoo.com'
Subject: Draft Turf Report for Public Comment

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From: Fowle II, Raymond C (Raymond_C_FowleII@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 5:50:59 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support

To Whom It May Concern:

I am strongly in support of the artificial fields. Having played on these fields as a collegiate athlete, I feel these fields greatly limited injury to my teammates and I. As a football coach, I feel the fields also limit the potential injury for rolling ankles and knees for my players. It would also save the county money in the long run for maintenance.

Thanks

Ray Fowle

From: Diana Conway (dconway@erols.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com; joseph_lavorgna@mcpsmd.org;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 5:55:20 PM
Cc:
Subject: RE: Corrected web link

Hey!
I'm starting to think you're doing this on purpose---- D

From: Lavorgna, Joseph [mailto:Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 2:26 PM
To: 'turfreportresponse@yahoo.com'
Subject: Corrected web link

Please use the following link to the report on the County Council's website. The link sent in the original email has been changed. Apologies to all for the confusion.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/at_report_w_appendices4-13-2011.pdf

From: Marchese, Margaret (MarcheseM@ebsi.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:05:48 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support turf fields for field Hockey

As a mother of a graduating senior FH player I am in full support of more turf fields for field hockey for 2 main reasons:
1. Schools that play on grass fields are at a distinct disadvantage from the teams that have turf fields.
2. Reduce the injuries due to bad bounces and deflected balls. My daughter broke a tooth and had a concussion due to deflected balls.

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From: Jessica Slingluff (jslingluff44@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:12:11 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

support turf fields

From: mpwboog@aol.com (mpwboog@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:13:57 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I support turf fields.

Michael Warfield

From: dogfoodboy79@comcast.net (dogfoodboy79@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:32:49 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Turf Fields in Montgomery County

I support installing as many turf fields as possible at Montgomery County Schools.

From: krenzke home (krenzke5@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:42:44 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Fields

The quantity of athletic fields at Damascus high school are not adequate. Many teams are required to travel away from the school to find practice space. The grass on the football field is gone half way through each football season and it is only used for games. Spring lacrosse has to be played on dirt. A turf field would alleviate a lot of the field shortage problems by allowing the stadium field to be used for team practices and provide a superior surface for all sports.

Jim Krenzke
Damascus, MD

From: Elizabeth Kitterman (ewkitterman@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 6:45:05 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I want to support the installation of more turf fields. My daughter plays field hockey and currently is playing on a very uneven, unkept, softball field.

Liz Kitterman

Reliable-Churchill

Montgomery County, Md

301-351-7808

From: Lori Slingluff (slingy20882@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Wed, April 13, 2011 6:50:39 PM
Cc:
Subject: support turf fields

for the well-being of our players and the growth of the sport.

thank you,

Lori Slingluff

Lori Slingluff
301-717-5540

From: Kathleen Culbertson (kaculbertson@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 7:24:42 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

Support turf fields!!

Kathleen Culbertson

From: Tracy (bobc250r@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, April 13, 2011 8:21:04 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support turf fields

I support turf fields

Sent from my iPad

From: Halie Detzel (xlucylovex34@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, April 13, 2011 10:11:16 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support turf field

I support turf fields

Sent from my iPod

From: Herta Granado (hertagranado@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Wed, April 13, 2011 11:15:25 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Turf Fields

Support Turf Fields

From: Carey, Catherine L. (Catherine_L_Carey@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 7:27:19 AM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf

As a parent and an MCPS staff member, I am in support or artificial turf for all High Schools.

Thanks!
Cathy Carey
Registrar
Damascus High School
Catherine_L_Carey@mcpsmd.org<mailto:Catherine_L_Carey@mcpsmd.org>
301-253-7041

From: Jurado, Marcus A. (Marcus_A_Jurado@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Thu, April 14, 2011 7:56:44 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Fields

I 100% support the use of a turf field at Seneca Valley High School!

	Marcus Jurado Counselor Varsity Girls Lacrosse Seneca Valley High School 301-353-8020

From: Laurie Bonds (LBonds2@wrapc.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 8:19:57 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

Support turf fields!!!!

Laurie Bonds,RT(R)(M) | Chief Technologist |Washington Radiology Associates,PC
Bethesda Office & Park Potomac Office | Bethesda 301-564-1053 | Fax: 301-564-1851
Potomac 240-223-4700 ext 1836 | Fax 240-223-4701
lbonds2@wrapc.com

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From: Heverly, William (William.Heverly@montgomerycountymd.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Thu, April 14, 2011 8:28:39 AM
Cc:
Subject: I Support Turf Fields

As a Montgomery County resident for over 40 years and father of three Montgomery County students I want to express my strong support for the turf fields. Our home school is Damascus High School and I can tell you a turf field would be a tremendous improvement over our current situation. The grass field can only be used sparingly in the fall (football and soccer) with the JV teams and field hockey teams relegated to inferior lower fields. Even with limited use, the field is a mud bog before half the season is over. A turf field would allow all of the teams to play on a quality field that would be much more durable and safer for all involved. Please install a turf field at our school.
Thanks,
Bill Heverly
Damascus, MD
240-876-1845

From: Smith, Jesse R (Jesse_R_Smith@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 8:31:08 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf @ Seneca Valley HS

I completely support the installation of a turf field. I feel it can benefit the school and it's sports teams in numerous ways. Thank you.

Jesse Smith
LAD Special Education
Assistant Athletic Director
Assistant Varsity Football Coach
Seneca Valley High School
(301)353-0880
www.svhsfootball.com

From: Danielle Owens (surfgirl10@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Thu, April 14, 2011 10:20:15 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf

I definatly support turf fields. The are so much better Then grass the the ball moves faster when you need it to, instead of getting stuck in overgrown grass.

From: Walko, Robert J. (Robert_J_Walko@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 10:29:08 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I support using field turf at Seneca Valley High School

Robert J. Walko
History Teacher
Assistant Football Coach
Graduation co-coordinator
Seneca Valley High School

From: Woodward, Jason D (Jason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Thu, April 14, 2011 10:41:09 AM
Cc.
Subject: [No Subject]

I support the turf project for ALL MCPS fields.
Jason Woodward
Gaithersburg High School
CCRD Teacher
Athletic Director RAA
301-840-4747

From: Walker, Bryan K. (Bryan_K_Walker@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 10:46:00 AM
Cc: Heather_A_Podosek@mcpsmd.org;
Subject: In support of the field turf at PBHS

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to support the fact that Paint Branch HS should receive Field Turf for their new stadium. The new facility at Paint Branch should have Field Turf because it is a surface that does allow for multiple games to be played in a day and does not show the normal wear and tear that a natural grass field would have if a game would be played in the elements. Less athletic injuries occur on Field Turf than on natural grass which is a major reason why this field should be installed. The overall cost for the maintenance of a stadium with Field Turf is much less than the yearly maintenance of natural grass if you project the cost out over the duration of the stadium. Paint Branch deserves to have what they have been promised, support field turf at the new Paint Branch High School.

Bryan K. Walker
Social Studies Dept.
Paint Branch HS
301-989-5636
Bryan_K_Walker@mcpsmd.org

From: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E] (phamm@exchange.nih.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I Thu, April 14, 2011 11:43:15 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf field

To whom it may concern,

I'm totally supported it. Thanks.

MyLinh Pham
Paint Branch's parents

From: Ferber, Robert D. (Robert_D_Ferber@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 12:30:05 PM
Cc: Heather_A_Podosek@mcpsmd.org;
Subject: Turf field for Paint Branch HS

I support the Work Group's report and look forward to seeing the new field at Paint Branch HS come to fruition.
I recognize the upfront cost is more expensive than grass but believe the long term maintenance costs will be less costly than a grass field.
There are some health concerns but those were answered adequately by the report.

From: Bicknese, Brandon M (Brandon_M_Bicknese@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Thu, April 14, 2011 12:33:36 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

To Whom It May Concern;

I've been following this issue from some time now, and my opinion is unchanged, all the evidence points to these artificial fields being GOOD for the county. I've heard the speculation and rumors of possible health/environmental concerns, yet there hasn't been a study I've seen to merit such ideas. What I have seen is studies where fertilizers and pesticides commonly used on natural fields has on several occasion proved very harmful to local wildlife and vegetation. Also on rare incidents, such chemicals have been harmful to humans through water contamination. The only concern that has been substantiated is the elevated temperature of the artificial fields on hot days. What I would say to that is from what I've read, the field temperature only becomes too hot to cause problems on days where students wouldn't be outside much, if at all, anyways due to strict policies already in place limiting exposure when the temperature is unsafe.

From: Nancy Spoor (conley@cavtel.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 12:53:02 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Workgroups Recommendations

Nancy Spoor
Parent, MCPS

From: Blackwell, Donyell M. (Donyell_M_Blackwell@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Thu, April 14, 2011 1:09:14 PM
Cc:
Subject: Paint Branch High School

I ABSOLUTELY support Paint Branch's efforts in trying to attain a turf field. Turf fields are a GREAT source a revenue for any school that has one!

Donyell Blackwell
Sammeker M.S. PE/Health Teacher
Paint Branch Varsity Football Assist. Coach
Paint Branch JV Boys Lacrosse Coach

Web Search

Check Mail New Go

Delete Reply Forward Spam Move Actions

All Emails

View your 2011 Credit Report

Inbox
Drafts
Sent
Spam
Trash
Contacts

Folders
untitled

Attach Large Files
Automatic Organizer
Calendar
Edit Photos
Evite
Flickr
My Cool Fonts

Kim, Fred J.	[No Subject]	
Blackwell, Donyell M	Paint Branch High School	
Nancy Spoor	Support Workgroups Recommend .	

[No Subject]

"Kim, Fred J."
"TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com"

I am 100% in support of a turf field. The positives clearly supersede the negatives. There is less maintenance which can save money and an inordinate amount of time spent on the field over the long run, the field can be rented to help fund the school, the safety of the field is beneficial for the student athletes who do not have to breath in the dirt and dust from dry and torn up fields, the field is safer than a dry torn of field because it has more shock absorption, it is an additional practice field that can be used with the limited space that is already present in most locations, and it is aestically pleasing to add to the school's reputation.

Fred J. Kim
Head Football Coach
Seneca Valley High School
19401 Crystal Rock Drive
Germantown, MD 20874
(w) 301-353-0880
(Fax) 301-353-8004
http://svhsfootball.com

From: Jennifer Gruber (jenngruber@msn.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
I : Thu, April 14, 2011 5:13:16 PM
Cc.
Subject: Artificial Turf Report for Public Comment

I have read the Artificial Turf Report and support having artificial surface fields in Montgomery County. Thank you for providing the community with such thorough information!

Jennifer Gruber
14632 Locustwood Ln.
Silver Spring, MD 20905

From: kerrydascoli@verizon.net (kerrydascoli@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 8:23:38 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Turf Fields

Support Turf Fields

From: Mike Carey at Cassaday & Company (Mike@cassaday.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Thu, April 14, 2011 8:24:26 PM
Cc:
Subject: Comment on Draft

I have briefly reviewed the draft document and applaud the work group for their comprehensive efforts. As a parent of 3 children who went through the Montgomery County School System, I wholeheartedly support the installation of artificial turf fields. I only wish these surfaces had been available when my children played their HS sports!

Mike Carey

Michael S. Carey, CFP®

cid:image003.png@01CB357B.6

8180 Greensboro Drive · Ste 1180 · McLean, VA 22102
703 506 8200 800 672 2102 · Fax 703 506 8208

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From: Jim Kitterman (jkitterm@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, April 14, 2011 9:53:58 PM
Cc:
Subject: I support turf fields

I support turf fields for high school athletics

From: mac2chelle@aol.com (mac2chelle@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
! : Fri, April 15, 2011 2:00:50 PM
Cc:
Subject: Field for Paint Branch High

I recently retired from Southwest Florida as Chief Administrative Officer of a very large school district with 13 high schools.

One area in which we did extensive investigation regarded cost, durability and aesthetics of natural and artificial turf.

Our district, as well as surrounding districts of Charlotte and Collier, participated in analysis of varieties of turf grass in addition to artificial turf. Many of the schools, after the research was completed did opt to go with artificial turf. The rational for this choice was durability, low maintenance, minimized upkeep, and after 5 - 7 years all dollars would be recovered. The biggest difference was cost - very high per year for natural turf grasses - especially in Fla, and high maintenance cost.

I do not hesitate to recommend serious consideration of artificial turf based on the above indicators.

Sincerely,
Michael P. McNerney, Retired, Chief Administrative Officer
Lee County Public Schools
Fort Myers, FL

P.S. - Also a past employee of Montgomery County Schools

From: Claire Filemyr (claire.filemyr@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Sat, April 16, 2011 11:25:17 AM
Cc:
Subject: support for artificial surface fields

I support the installation of artificial surface fields on County and school fields.

/Claire Filemyr

From: alysabilleter@yahoo.com (alysabilleter@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Mon, April 18, 2011 9:31:05 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

Support turf fields!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Tom Hormby (hormby@hotmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, April 18, 2011 9:42:05 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support

I support the conclusions of the Turf Report that recommends the adoption of artificial turf fields in place of natural grass.

Thanks,
Tom

From: Levchenko, Keith (Keith.Levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Tue, April 19, 2011 9:41:06 AM
Cc:
Subject: sartucci comments

Attached are comments the Council received from Janis Sartucci on the turf report. I'm not sure whether she also sent the comments to the report comments email address.

Keith Levchenko
Senior Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council Staff
100 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(work) 240-777-7944
(fax) 240-777-7888
keith.levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

SCHOOLS & ED

KL
CC
EHC

Guthrie, Lynn

062076

From: Ervin's Office, Councilmember
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2011 10:09 AM
To: Montgomery County Council
Subject: FW: Finally, artificial turf report & MCPS had money for a consultant to sit on this committee for last 10 months

-----Original Message-----
From: jzsartucci@cs.com [mailto:jzsartucci@cs.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 6:31 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember; Andrew's Office, Councilmember; Trachtenberg's Office, Councilmember; Berliner's Office, Councilmember; OIG Mailbox; Ervin's Office, Councilmember; Leventhal's Office, Councilmember; Knapp's Office, Councilmember; Ike Leggett; rob.garagiola@senate.state.md.us; house@montgomerycountydelegation.com; Floreen's Office, Councilmember; Rice's Office, Councilmember; Riemer's Office, Councilmember; Elrich's Office, Councilmember; OLO OFFICE
Subject: Finally, artificial turf report & MCPS had money for a consultant to sit on this committee for last 10 months

The report that was due by **December 2010**, on artificial turf fields in Montgomery County was released today, **April 13, 2011**. The report had been requested by a County Council committee.

The report seems to leave out three important pieces of information that are now known to the public. (If you find this information in the report, please let us know!)

1) Montgomery County and MCPS have a no-bid, exclusive deal with just one artificial turf supplier: FieldTurf Tarkett.

2) FieldTurf Tarkett is now suing their supplier for providing them with defective materials.

3) MCPS must buy 3 fields within 3 years from FieldTurf in order secure the price paid for the first two fields.

Wonder how this report would change if artificial turf field procurements in Montgomery County were put out for **COMPETITIVE BIDS**?

http://parentscoalitionmc.blogspot.com/2011/04/hot-off-presses-artificial-turf-report.html

Janis Sartucci
Parents' Coalition of Montgomery County, Maryland

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COUNCIL
2011 APR 14 PM 1:49

From: Ken Diehl (kendiehl@erols.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, April 19, 2011 2:22:50 PM
Cc:
Subject: Feedback on Artificial Turf Fields

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Ken Diehl. I currently serve as both the President of Damascus Soccer Club (DSC) and as a men's soccer coach at Damascus High School .

Damascus Soccer Club has over 1,300 kids playing soccer throughout the upper Montgomery County area both on recreational and competitive levels. DSC teams play well over 150 games on artificial turf fields each Spring and Fall season.

In my time spent as both a coach and now as President of the club I have been personally involved both as a coach and spectator in hundreds of soccer games played on both natural grass and artificial turf fields. My experiences have served to form my personal belief that artificial turf fields actually represent a safer playing surface as compared to nearly all natural grass fields unless natural grass fields are professionally maintained like they are at the Maryland Soccerplex. In the absence of consistent, professional maintenance natural grass fields offer more opportunities for injuries through uneven grading and potholes etc..

Further, in my experience, artificial turf fields actually provide a lower-cost field solution over the long-term when factoring in all lifecycle costs.

Last, artificial turf fields do provide for additional play time as compared to natural grass fields and thus artificial turf fields better fill the needs of soccer teams for surfaces that can be used both for practices as well as for games and for play in wet conditions which leads to less cancellations or rescheduling of events.

In summary, I would like to express my support for the future consideration and installation of additional artificial turf fields within Montgomery County both in Parks as well as at Public Schools.

Regards,

Ken Diehl
President
Damascus Soccer Club

From: Woodward, Jason D (Jason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Sun, April 24, 2011 3:28:39 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support Field Turf projects for all MCPS High Schools

I support field turf for all MCPS High school athletic fields.
Jason Woodward
Gaithersburg High School
CCRD Teacher
Athletic Director RAA
301-840-4747

From: Donna Pfeiffer (donnapfeiffer@gmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Mon, April 25, 2011 4:03:42 PM
Cc: Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org;
Subject: RE: Corrected web link

Hey Joe
Do you know the correct link? This is the 3rd time it's changed just since I've been clicking on it the last few weeks?!
Thanks much,
Donna
Donna Pfeiffer
MCCPTA Safety & Health committee co-chair

From: Lavorgna, Joseph [mailto:Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 2:26 PM
To: 'turfreportresponse@yahoo.com'
Subject: Corrected web link

Please use the following link to the report on the County Council's website. The link sent in the original email has been changed. Apologies to all for the confusion.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/at_report_w_appendices4-13-2011.pdf

From: Anne Ambler (anambler@gmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, April 26, 2011 10:20:09 AM
Cc:
Subject: Re: Corrected web link

Evidently the link has been changed again? I get an error message on this one. Please advise.

Anne Ambler

On Wed, Apr 13, 2011 at 2:25 PM, Lavorgna, Joseph <Joseph_Lavorgna@mcpsmd.org> wrote:

Please use the following link to the report on the County Council's website. The link sent in the original email has been changed. Apologies to all for the confusion.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/at_report_w_appendices4-13-2011.pdf

From: Podosek, Heather A. (Heather_A_Podosek@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, April 26, 2011 3:40:31 PM
Cc:
Subject: Paint Branch coaches

The Paint Branch Athletic Department is in complete support of the Turf field program. Paint Branch HS should receive Field Turf for their new stadium. A turf stadium would mean the school and the community would have a surface that would allow for multiple practices, games and classes to be played day in and day out. Turf fields reduce the "rain outs" and allow for use immediately after and at times during weather that would have shut down a natural grass field. Less athletic injuries occur on Field Turf than on natural grass which is a major reason why this field should be installed. The overall cost for the maintenance of a stadium with Field Turf is much less than the yearly maintenance of natural grass if you project the cost out over the duration of the stadium.

Yours in sport!

Heather Podosek
Athletic Director
Paint Branch High School
301-989-5616 (0ffice)
240-316-1009 (cell)

From: Sue Cook Christakos (suec59@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 9:35:19 AM
Cc: sue.amos@walterjohnson.com; christopher.merrill@walterjohnson.com; Christopher.Garran@walterjohnson.com;
Subject: artificial turf

Attached you will find my comments summarizing the impact that the artificial turf has had on the Walter Johnson community. Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Sue Cook Christakos, Walter Johnson All School Booster Club President

Walter Johnson High School All School Booster Club
www.wjboosterclub.com

To Whom It May Concern;

As President of the All School Booster Club at Walter Johnson High School, I have been asked to comment on *A Review of Benefits and Issues Associated with Natural and Artificial Turf Rectangular Stadium Fields* April 2011. As you know, the installation of artificial turf at Walter Johnson High School was completed in 2010. Since its installation, our teams have been practicing and playing on the turf field and it has enhanced our school in many ways.

First, given the limited practice field space at Walter Johnson, the turf has allowed our many student athletic groups to practice on campus in a safe, supervised site. For several years, while our school underwent an on-site modernization, our students were forced to use other fields off-campus on a daily basis in order to practice. Not only were the practice fields substandard, replete with unsafe, uneven surfaces, students were forced to drive or obtain rides in order to participate on a team. This is no longer the case at WJ. Visit our campus and you will see several teams utilizing our turf, and the other practice fields which surround it. In addition to increased field space, the artificial turf at Walter Johnson has resulted in a significant reduction in game and practice cancellations for teams that are fortunate enough to be able to use the turf. In past years, the cancellation of games not only disrupted the schedules of parents and students, but many times caused seasons to be cut short. For students who rely on their athletic performance as an entry to a college career, the reduced opportunity to "play" impacted not only their high school career, but their future as well. Finally, in addition to our athletic teams, the general student population at Walter Johnson has benefitted from the turf. Our physical education classes have access to a safe, all weather surface in which to hold class and participate in the physical education curriculum.

While the artificial turf at Walter Johnson High School is a new addition, our experience over the past school year exemplifies the benefits of an artificial turf field. We thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Cook Christakos, President
Walter Johnson High School All School Booster Club

From: Heimbach, Karl S. (Karl_S_Heimbach@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 12:14:16 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artifical Turf

As the athletic director at Magruder High School, we are always dealing with unplayable fields due to rain. We have so many teams and not enough practice space or good grass to allow games or practices to be played. The ability to have artificial turf would be very beneficial to our school and community. By the end of the regular season my stadium field is pretty much unplayable.

Karl S. Heimbach, CMAA
Athletic Director
1st Vice President of MSADA

Col. Zadok Magruder High School
5939 Muncaster Mill Road
Rockville, MD 20855

Work (301) 840-4624
Cell (301) 502-0313
Fax (301) 840-4617

From: Sacramo, Raymond F. (Raymond_F_Sacramo@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Fri, April 29, 2011 12:29:41 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Fields

We need more turf fields. Turf fields at high schools can be used for gym classes during the day and several team practices in the afternoon and evening without determination of the fields Overuse leads to more dirt areas on the fields. During August and the early fall season overuse of grass fields leads to dust being inhales by coaches and athletes when conditions are hot and dirt areas are at a maximum.

Fewer high school teams would also need to practice off site on fields that are already over used. In many cases student must drive to practice fields located off campus. Safety risk in general due to injury, inhaling dust and travel would be reduced at any high school that has a turf field.

From: Walko, Robert J. (Robert_J_Walko@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 12:49:20 PM
Cc:
Subject: Seneca Valley turf.

Dear Sirs:
I highly favor Seneca Valley being given a synthetic turf field over the grass option. I also feel that our baseball field should become cutting edge and have synthetic turf installed there as well. Having both fields taking advantage of synthetic turf would allow almost all outdoor practices and contest to continue with inclement weather.

Robert J. Walko
History Teacher
Assistant Football Coach
Graduation co-coordinator
Seneca Valley High School

From: Ricucci, Michael (Michael_Ricucci@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Fri, April 29, 2011 12:54:43 PM
Cc: Andrew_R_Wetzel@mcpsmd.org;
Subject: Turf Field Support

Good Afternoon,

My name is Mike Ricucci and I am the Head Men's Lacrosse Coach at Walt Whitman High School in Montgomery County Maryland. As a Men's Lacrosse Coach who played at the top level in college, winning 2 national titles I am a total supporter of turf fields. I played on them in college and continue to play on them now in men's elite travel teams.

Turf fields provide a stable surface that is playable in all conditions minus lightning and thunder. The fields are always consistent and you do not have to worry about injuries due to clumps, patches, holes or drains. They provide teams equal opportunity to play there sports on them and not just football soccer lacrosse, but field hockey which rarely gets to use the main stadium fields with lights in our county.

They are cost affective and would save our county millions in field replenishment each year, painting, maintenance, lawn crews, watering bills etc...

They are also extremely effective in reducing major injuries such as knee tears, concussions and broken bones due to contact with rock hard dirt/grass fields that often occurs when it's cold or extremely hot outside during our seasons and the fields dry out and harden up.

While it is true that Turf fields can increase in heat on a sunny day more so than grass it is also true that a sprinkler system can still be installed to water them down for 5-10 minutes and drop the surface temperature drastically prior to a contest with no affect on the game itself due to sloppy conditions.

Turf fields are being installed in every county in Maryland except Montgomery county and that is a travesty. High School teams as well as youth recreation programs are gaining advantages over our kids for the simple reason that they can play year round on these fields without tearing them up in all weather conditions. We need to be placed on the same "playing field" so to speak and continue to grow our athletics programs as other counties are. Until we do so we will be at a distinct disadvantage.

Thank you for taking the time to read my supporting response.

Very Respectfully,

Michael D. Ricucci
Physical Education Roberto Clemente Middle School
Walt Whitman Head Men's Lacrosse Coach

From: Kelly, Colleen M. (Colleen_M_Kelly@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 1:00:55 PM
Cc:
Subject: In Favor

I support Turf Fields within Montgomery County!

Colleen Kelly
Computer Science Teacher - Internship Coordinator
Vars. Girls' Basketball & Vars. Softball Head Coach
Assistant AD (Fall Season) and Academic Advisor
QOHS Webmaster
Colleen_M_Kelly@mcpsmd.org - 301-548-8284 (Office)
GO COUGARS!!!

From: weljr65@comcast.net (weljr65@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Fri, April 29, 2011 1:01:24 PM
Cc:
Subject: in favor

Hello,

I am fully in favor of installing turf at all MCPS high school stadiums. It seems to me that turf fields will cut down on lost games, injuries and the expense of maintaining grass fields, often to no avail. Please press forward with turf fields throughout the county.
thanks.

Bill Leffingwell
4821 Cherry Valley Drive
Rockville MD. 20853
Magruder High School and Redland Middle School parent

From: Robin McCue (robin.mccue.1963@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 1:47:51 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf In MCPS

I fully support Artificial Turf Fields in MCPS.

What a huge benefit turf fields would be for all of our student-athletes - it would allow all schools to have safe playing fields.

Thank you,
Robin McCue

From: Rackey, Joan D. (Joan_D_Rackey@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Fri, April 29, 2011 2:20:13 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I think having a turf field would be great for Einstein. So many game are canceled and rescheduled and this would eliminate that.

Instrumental Music Director
Albert Einstein High School
Office # 301-929-4495

From: Andrews, James J. (James_J_Andrews@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 2:26:35 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf Fields

I am in support of artificial turf fields for Montgomery County Schools. I believe they provide a more consistent and safer playing surface than natural grass fields. As an athletic administrator I know the time and expense that goes into upkeep of the natural grass fields. Even then the most of the fields wind up in poor shape due to the amount of use they get, especially in the fall.

Thank you,

Jay Andrews

Social Studies Department
Elected Faculty Representative
Boys JV Lacrosse Coach
Assistant Athletic Director
Albert Einstein High School

From: Kingsportsinc@aol.com (Kingsportsinc@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 7:54:54 PM
Cc:
Subject: turf report

I am a parent of 3 children in Montgomery county public schools. I have herd the debates and all the issues.I have read this new study. Quite frankly I DONT see the issue? To me turf fields are just the right thing to do. They are good for the environment. As they are a giant filter. They do away with the need for chemicals used on grass fields. They are cost effective. They eliminate down time to rain. I can go on and on,the bottom line they are good for our kids. thank you John

From: A1kingex@aol.com (A1kingex@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, April 29, 2011 8:02:01 PM
Cc:
Subject: why not

After reading this report I can think of NO reason why some one would not want a turf field. Unless that person had the wrong or out dated information about the safety of turf. I am 100% for turf! Our kids deserve it.Our planet deserves it and our economy deserves it. thank you

From: Christina (a1kingex@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Sat, April 30, 2011 8:30:34 PM
Cc.
Subject: Turf report

To whom it concerns:

I would like to offer my opinion on Synthetic Turf Fields for Montgomery County Schools & Parks.
It's my opinion every School District should have access to a Synthetic Turf Fields. They are safe, cost effective-profitable and enviromentally responcible.
I have kids that play sports in the Damascus area of Montgomery County. I am a coach with the Damascus Sports Association. I know first hand how important sports are to the families and players in our community.
Having access to the Synthetic Turf Fields would offer an answer to the growing problems we are currently facing with the lack of fields for practices and games & bad field conditions.
Synthetic Turf Fields have a place and will fill a great need for many of our communities. They are a great asset and should be approved for Montgomery County for Schools & Parks

From: krenzke home (krenzke5@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Sat, April 30, 2011 9:36:39 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Field For Damascus High School

As a parent of three children who attend/attended Damascus High, I feel the use of artificial turf on the stadium field would be well worth the investment. Currently, the grass field does not survive the fall sports season. A turf would allow for more use of the field in the fall in spring without having to play in mud or dirt.

Jim Krenzke
Damascus, Md

From: Baez, Adrian (Adrian_Baez@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Mon, May 2, 2011 7:21:10 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf ...

Yes, to turf fields...they take less maintenance(grass cutting, reseeding, fertilizing and maintenance, field lining and more) and are more durable than regular grass fields. So my vote is for TURF.
Adrian Baez- Einstein HS Varsity Soccer Coach

From: Steve Janoskie (Steve.Janoskie@ProtechAssociates.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 7:33:20 AM
Cc:
Subject: Support

I support the recommendations of the work group

Steve Janoskie
Paint Branch HS Parent

Steve Janoskie | Vice President Operations

From: Alicia Cooke (AliciaC@wrightmfg.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Mon, May 2, 2011 8:43:54 AM
Cc:
Subject: artificial turf

I am in support of artificial turf. The positives seem to far outweigh the negatives. School is not in session during July and August, the hottest months. Regarding allergies, I believe there are probably far more students allergic to grass and weeds and tree than to rubber, my daughter included. And if a turf burn is the worst injury my son gets from playing football on turf, I'd be happy. I've spent the last 6 years trying to adjust my schedule when games are cancelled and re-scheduled, that turf's sounding very nice about now.

Thank you.
Alicia Cooke
23800 Woodfield Rd
Gaithersburg MD 20882

From: Hilliard III, Harold J (Harold_J_HilliardIII@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 9:54:43 AM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial turf letter

Dear County Council Member:

I am writing on behalf of the 25 Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) athletic directors and approximately 2,000 coaches and 22,000 student athletes that they directly supervise. My attached letter will outline the reasons why the individuals I represent are fully in favor of artificial turf installations for Montgomery County Public School athletic facilities.

H.J. Hilliard
Athletic Director
James Hubert Blake HS
300 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905
Office - 301-879-1333
Cell - 301-252-2810

From: Mindy Saffer (msaffer@wlsrealty.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:08:11 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf for Quince Orchard HS

QO is one of the top athletic schools in Montgomery County. I have three kids that will play sports in the school. Please approve artificial turf for the school.

Best,

Mindy W. Saffer, LEED AP
Principal
West, Lane & Schlager Realty Advisors

1155 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-7227 Direct
(202) 835-3388 Main
(202) 345-7059 Cell
(202) 835-3654 Fax
www.wlsrealty.com

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From: Fox, Timothy (Timothy.Fox@hq.doe.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:08:57 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf field for Quince Orchard

This is a vote to install a new turf field at Quince Orchard High School

Tim Fox
Health, Safety and Security
301-903-7035

From: Amy Fink (afinkster@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I Mon, May 2, 2011 1:15:29 PM
Cc:
Subject: we support TURF FIELDS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

YES TO TURF FIELDS;
I travel up and down the east coast with my daughter's soccer team and find that we are mainly playing on turf fields. I am surprised at the lack of turf fields we have in Montgomery County . We need more turf fields in Montgomery County to accommodate our athletes- and provide them with a steady weather resistant place for games and practices.

Thanks
A Fink

From: Neal, Christine (Christine.Neal@marriott.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:22:49 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf at QOHS

I support replacing the current football field at Quince Orchard High School with artificial turf. Having played on the artificial turf fields at the Discovery SportsPlex, I know the advantages they provide and the improved quality of playing. Please support this initiative.

Thank you.
Chris Neal
907 Linslade Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

From: Stewart, Jody (jstewart@realtymanagement.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:25:24 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Field at Quince Orchard High School

I am emailing you to provide my support the installation of an artificial turf at Quince Orchard High School. My son is a member of the varsity lacrosse team and I believe this would be a great asset for the school.

Jody A. Stewart
Senior Property Manager
Realty Management Company
6430 Rockledge Drive, Suite 400
Bethesda, MD 20817
301.657.8386
301.657.8392

From: Leah McKenzie (leizzz@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:29:16 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I SUPPORT AARTIFICIAL TURF FOR QUINCE ORCHARD HIGH FOOTBALL FIELD

Leah McKenzie

"The more you learn, the more flexible you are."
"A wise man will not insult me, and a fool can't."

From: Claire Fleischer (fleischer5@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:39:13 PM
Cc:
Subject: QOHS Turf

I'd like to indicate my support to replace the QOHS football field w/ artificial turf.

Claire Fleischer

From: Rhonda Gold (rgold@naph.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 1:41:38 PM
Cc:
Subject: QOHS

Quince Orchard HS is in dire need of an artificial turf field. Please consider providing the necessary resources to accomplish this goal for our school that has one of the best sports programs in the County!

Rhonda Gold

NPH
Rhonda Gold, CPA |Vice President for Finance and Administration
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 950
Washington, DC 20004
202 585 XXXX tel | 202 585 XXXX fax
xxxx@naph.org | www.naph.org

NPH Follow NAPH on Facebook and Twitter

Don't forget: Our Annual Conference is June 22-24 in Chicago - Register now!

From: CHUCK and CINDY WHITEIS (cwhiteis@msn.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Г : Mon, May 2, 2011 1:44:01 PM
C
Subject: Quince Orchard High School

Support artificial turf

From: Simon, Stacey (Stacey_Simon@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 2:10:50 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

We support artificial turf....Stacey and David Simon

From: Linda Dagen (asusundevilmom@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Mon, May 2, 2011 2:16:39 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf

Please allow Quince Orchard High School to replace the football field with artificial turf.

Thank you!
Linda Dagen
301-330-1408

From: Rusty McCabe (RMcCabe@mcsheaco.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 2:19:20 PM
Cc:
Subject: YES

I vote yes for turf fields. I have a daughter currently playing field hockey at Quince Orchard and 2 sons who will play football and lacrosse at Quince Orchard. As a coach at the youth level we see the benefits of turf fields with fewer injuries due to poor field conditions and fewer cancellations and when it comes to field hockey it a much faster and better game for the girls not to mention they went to the State tournament and played on a turf for the first time, a real disadvantage for Mo Co teams. I'm sure you've factored in the revenue generation for leasing turf fields in your report that will allow youth programs to play at high school venues better suited for larger crowds and fun for the kids too! YES for turf! Start at QO!

Rusty McCabe
Assistant Vice President
McShea & Company, Inc.
100 Lakeforest Blvd., Suite 500
Gaithersburg, Md. 20877
301-417-1089 direct
301-442-1067 cell
301-869-7201 fax

From: Carol Walker (walkerinmd@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Mon, May 2, 2011 2:54:29 PM
Cc:
Subject: We support a turf field at QOHS!

Thank you for your consideration!

John & Carol Walker

From: Diane Canova (soccer_mother@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 3:16:12 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I support turf at Quince Orchard High School.

From: Anna Hogenkamp (hhogenka@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Mon, May 2, 2011 3:22:50 PM
Cc:
Subject: Quince Orchard HS

Please support the installation of a turf field at Quince Orchard HS. There is currently not a Gaithersburg cluster turf field and games continuously are cancelled when the weather is slightly wet. This puts a strain on all parties involved.I Also the excellent caliber of athletics at Quince Orchard demands a high quality field.
Thank you for your support
Anna Hogenkamp

From: Anne Manners (abmanners@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 3:39:18 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf

I support the addition of an artificial turf field at Quince Orchard High School. Thank you.
Anne Manners

From: Zandra Watson (zdentist@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Mon, May 2, 2011 4:39:21 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf at Springbrook

Dear Dr Beattie,

I am in support for having a turf field at Springbrook High Shool.

Sincerely,

Zandra M Watson DDS

From: Lisa Konecke (lkonecke@hotmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 5:55:58 PM
Cc:
Subject: QOHS Turf Field

I support a turf athletic field at QOHS.

Lisa Konecke

From: Mary Moore (marydmoore@rcn.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
:: Mon, May 2, 2011 7:52:54 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf at QO

I support artificial turf at Quince Orchard High School.

Thank you,
Mary Moore
708 Chestertown Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

From: Stan Kryjak (skryjak@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, May 2, 2011 10:07:31 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf field at Quince Orchard High school

I fully support the installation of a turf field at Quince Orchard High School.
Stan Kryjak
Sent from my iPad2

From: micheleh99@aol.com (micheleh99@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Mon, May 2, 2011 10:11:21 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf field for Quince Orchard High School

To Whom it may concern:

I support Quince Orchard High School getting a turf field!

We have had too many game cancellations this year due to soggy fields after just a little bit of rain.

Thank you,

Michele Hollander

From: Jean Murphy (jean-murphy@usa.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 6:39:38 AM
Cc:
Subject: QOHS football field

Please do NOT replace our beautiful natural football field with artificial turf. The community worked very hard to raise the funds to upgrade our field and it is the pride and joy of our Cougar football team, the student fans, and the entire QOHS community.

Jean Murphy
Jean-murphy@usa.net 301-674-2333

From: Bassett, Teak C (Teak_C_Bassett@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 7:11:10 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I support turf field for Springbrook High School and all mcps high schools throughout the county

From: elisabeth.thibeau@comcast.net (elisabeth.thibeau@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 7:59:25 AM
Cc:
Subject: Please Provide Artifical Turf Fields

I am a Quince Orchard High School Parent in support of providing our school with an artificial turf field. The savings in resources, such as water and field maintenance time, as well as the safety of our athletes, are well worth the cost. Please move forward on this priority.

Regards,
Elisa Thibeau

From: Myers, T. Kirk (T.Kirk_Myers@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 8:57:09 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf

I support Artificial Turf. As a soccer coach at the HS level and Elite Club level I found that field turf fields have been better suited to the needs of rec/sports programs throughout Montgomery County as well as surrounding counties. I highly recommend supporting this cause.

Kirk Myers

From: Sandy Krems (sandykrems@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 8:59:31 AM
Cc:
Subject: I Support Artificial Turf at Quince Orchard High School

To the Montgomery County Council:

I am a Quince Orchard High School parent in support of providing our school with an artificial turf field.

My daughter plays lacrosse and has had many cancelled games as a result of poor and unsafe field conditions due to rain. Additionally, the savings in resources, such as water and field maintenance time, as well as the safety of our athletes, are well worth the cost.

Please move forward on this priority.

Best regards,

Sandy Krems

From: d ascher (durango336@hotmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 9:24:08 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

To the Montgomery County Council:

I am a Quince Orchard High School parent in support of providing our school with an artificial turf field. My daughter plays lacrosse and has had many cancelled games as a result of poor and unsafe field conditions due to rain.

Additionally, the savings in resources, such as water and field maintenance time, as well as the safety of our athletes, are well worth the cost. Please move forward on this priority.

Thank you,
debbi ascher

debbi ascher
debbi@emersonglenn.com
Emerson Glenn Garment, Inc.
1133 Taft Street
Rockville, MD 20850

cell: 301-580-2406
fax: 301-670-0990
work: 301-309-9625

http://www.emersonglenn.com/
http://emersonglenn.somuchmore09.com/
http://www.companycasuals.com/EG/start.jsp

From: Lori Wakefield (lorissasmail@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 9:25:30 AM
Cc:
Subject: I Support Artificial Turf at Quince Orchard High School

To the Montgomery County Council:

I am a Quince Orchard High School parent in support of providing our school with an artificial turf field. Sports are an important part of our high school and community! Additionally, the savings in resources, such as water and field maintenance time, as well as the safety of our athletes, are well worth the cost. Please move forward on this priority.

Best regards,

Lori Wakefield

From: Curtin, Mary (Mary.Curtin@compass-usa.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 9:28:44 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

We support the idea for artificial turf.

DISCLAIMER Important! This message is intended for the above named person(s) only and is CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail and have received it in error, please immediately notify the sender by return email and then delete it from your mailbox. This message may be protected by the attorney-client privilege and/or work product doctrine. Accessing, copying, disseminating or re-using any of the information contained in this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. Finally, you should check this email and any attachments for the presence of viruses, as the sender accepts no liability for any damage caused by any virus transmitted by this email. Thank you.

From: dholdsworth@comcast.net (dholdsworth@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 9:29:38 AM
Cc:
Subject: Truf for QO

I would like turf for Quince Orchard High. The field gets so dangerous$
SBH
Sent on the Sprint® Now Network from my BlackBerry®

From: xcip@aol.com (xcip@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 10:06:21 AM
Cc:
Subject: In favor of Turf Fields

As a former athlete and current parent of a soccer and lacrosse player, I would like to show my whole-hearted support for turf fields at MCPS high schools, especially the new one planned for Gaithersburg HS. In our climate challenged and budget challenged environments, a muddy, rut-filled field is dangerous on ankles and knees. The upkeep required for a natural grass field is expensive, time-consuming and environmentally challenging.

The Richard Montgomery HS turf field is the home of the Maryland Real Monarch semi-pro soccer team as well as the future stars league. I'm not sure what the financial arrangement is but there are many opportunities in the community for revenue generation. Currently the MD soccerplex has a few turf fields and they charge by the hour. I'm sure Bohrer Park would be a fine partner in generating revenue and providing a safe alternative for our young men and women athletes.

A turf field at Gaithersburg HS would be a welcome addition, preventing/avoiding injuries, eliminating wet/muddy field rainouts, and a welcome addition to the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

Dan Cipra
20308 Marketree Place
Montgomery Village, MD 20886
240-793-8582

From: Gary Milwit (gmilwit@stonestreet.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 10:10:47 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf at MCPS high schools

To whom it may concern:

I am a parent of two Montgomery County student athletes; I am also a former MCPS teacher, coach and athletic director. I have traveled the country and have attended dozens of turf management conferences and at one time I would have considered myself an expert in field maintenance and turf management. Montgomery County is behind the curve when it comes to how we manage our stadium fields; we leave all the work to a select few Athletic Directors or in some lucky cases parents that want to help. For those Athletic Directors around the county who don't have the resources to keep good quality fields we are in dire need of a solution. If we were able to look at the long term economic impact of replacing our turf stadium fields and putting in quality synthetic turf and were then able to rent the facilities for the 1,000 plus hours they are available it seems that MCPS and the County would come to the same conclusion as every DC public school, Northern VA schools, most every private school in the area and now almost every facility that requires more than one sport be played over a 12-month period.

Without even considering the shear logic of this move for all schools; it is astounding that no one is considering the money that is going into these facilities today with the natural turf. The reason no one considers it is b/c most high school use their own booster club or athletic department funds to maintain what they can; and then it becomes a have and have not situation. If you are really interested in learning more just go right now after this rainy lacrosse season to every stadium and the county and look for yourself. It is embarrassing that there is not a project, not just a capital project for schools being renovated, that really sees the cost benefit in making this transition. Quince Orchard and Wotton alone are spending $100,000 combined per year on field maintenance and watering. This doesn't even include the cost of the equipment that the school buys (tractors, sweepers, aerators etc.). The county doesn't help these schools and the schools that they try to help look like no one cares.

We claim to be on the cutting edge; we are not when it comes to our stadiums. This is a capital project that most Synthetic Turf companies would love to finance over time; this isn't a booster club project, this isn't a one off solution, this is a real situation [illegible] a luxury case. The bad fields are not safe and the good fields are being overused even when they try their hardest not to play [illegible] when the first drop of water comes from the sky.

If someone would like to contact me or would like help to work on such a project I would volunteer.

Gary R. Milwit
Senior Vice President
Stone Street Capital, LLC
(301)-347-4462 (o)
(301)-347-4428 (f)
www.stonestreet.com
gmilwit@stonestreet.com

From: Chris Douglas (c.s.douglas@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 10:20:02 AM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf for Quince Orchard HS

I have a son who is a Junior at Quince Orchard High School. I strongly support replacing the QO football field with artificial turf.

--
Chris Douglas
12112 Orchard View Rd
Gaithersburg MD 20878

From: Wise, Wesley S (Wesley_S_Wise@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 10:32:02 AM
Cc:
Subject: Support of Turf Field report

To whom it may concern,

I support the Turf field report, with the conclusion that artificial turf would be a better surface for our athletic fields in Montgomery County.

I have a unique expertise in this debate in that I'm a soccer coach, played soccer, have many years experience in turf care, a degree in a related field, and spend a great deal of my time maintaining the fields at Springbrook High School and others. I prefer to play and have my teams play on a healthy, well maintained, natural field but this is a rarity in the county. We manage to maintain a playable field at Springbook but it is mainly used just for games and forces us to practice on fields in the area which are in dangerous shape due to lack of maintenance and overuse. Our upper field that host Softball/Baseball gets torn up each fall by football practice and P.E.. This makes it close to unplayable in Spring, we don't have enough time to grow grass.

Artificial turf is the way to go to solve many of our playing surface problems. With the lack of space at Springbrook, I would purpose that the lower field as well as the upper baseball/softball fields be artificial turf to get as many teams we can to be able to practice on campus at a reasonable time after school.

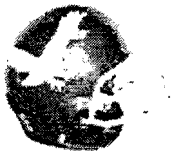
Thanks for your consideration,

Wes Wise
Instructional Data Analyst (IDA)
Jackson Road Elementary (301) 989-5650
Springbrook High School Boy's Soccer

From: Kim, Fred J. (Fred_J_Kim@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 10:51:19 AM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

A turf field without question benefit the entire school and community. That is the trend that is going on now all over the country. The pros far outweigh the cons. It is more efficient. People end up working smarter not longer.

Fred J. Kim
Head Football Coach
Seneca Valley High School
19401 Crystal Rock Drive
Germantown, MD 20874
(w) 301-353-0880
(Fax) 301-353-8004
http://svhsfootball.com



From: DENICE ETHERIDGE (d_etheridge@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 11:06:17 AM
Cc:
Subject: Battle For Turf Fields

When G'burg High School is rebuilt, please put in turf fields. As this is what new schools are getting, so why shouldn't we be allowed to receive this as well.

Denice J. Etheridge

"It's because you are determined, not the time, that you attain perfection."

From: lstid@comcast.net (lstid@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 12:40:01 PM
Cc:
Subject: QO Turf field

Absolutely Quince Orchard High School should have a turf field. It is the center of our community. The condition of the field represents how we want our neighborhood the look and feel, as well as how we want to support our local student athletes to be the best they can be.

Lisa Stid

From: Maczka (Maczka@hughes.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 12:41:06 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support turf fields

From: Mike Ritchie (MRitchie@stonestreet.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 1:54:43 PM
Cc:
Subject: QO Turf Field

I strongly support QO going to a turf field.

Mike Ritchie
National Sales Manager
Stone Street Capital, LLC
(o) 301-347-4455
(c) 301-938-2700
(f) 301-347-4428
MRitchie@stonestreet.com

From: Cheryl Vault (vaultcj@hotmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 5:24:30 PM
Cc:
Subject: GHS Parent in support of Turf Fields

I am a GHS football parent in support of turf fields. Unlike grass, turf fields result in fewer injuries because of its durability and even playing surface. The lower maintenance costs associated with turf fields from a fiscal standpoint would help allieviate budget constraints in MCPS.

Cheryl L. Vault

From: Gabriel (wvupika@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 5:36:58 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Fields

It is my unprofessional opinion that the Field Turf fields are an EXCELLENT upgrade to the school and community and THE RIGHT CHOICE.

Most of our neighbor school systems are years ahead MCPS in adopting Field Turf fields to ALL their HS not just the new ones. Anne Arundel, Howard, DC, Fairfax, etc. All these organizations do NOT have it wrong! They have it RIGHT!

COLLEGE AND PROFESSIONAL organizations do not have it wrong! They have it right! WORLD CUP games are played on the same turf fields. They do NOT have it wrong. They have it right.

If funds were unlimited and a grass field could be played on multiple times per day, multiple days per week, 12 months of the year, in good or poor weather conditions, then yes, quality grass fields, would be the most ideal.

But instead what happens is limited play on the stadium field and just a few games into the season the field is poor quality. This leads to a bad playing experience for the students. And the community can not use the field because it will lead to poorer quality.

Field turf fields are the RIGHT CHOICE!

Respectfully submitted,
Gabriel

--

Gabriel Ado
301-370-5211

From: Tiki Edwards (tiki_edwards@hotmail.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Tue, May 3, 2011 5:48:39 PM
Cc:
Subject: I support artificial turf!

I support artificail turf for Quince Orchard High School.

Thank you.
Tiki Edwards
(Parent of a QOHS football player)

From: Gina Dropik (ginadropik@gmail.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Tue, May 3, 2011 8:01:05 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I support replacing the Quince Orchard High School football field with artificial turf.

Gina Dropik
207 Tschiffely Square Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

From: Silva Margarita (hmc_silva@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 9:10:33 AM
Cc:
Subject: SUPPORT OF ARTIFICIAL TURF FOR QUINCE ORCHARD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD.

Good day. I support artifical turf for the Quince Orchard High School football field. I am a parent and active supporter in Montgomery county.

Your consideration and support is appreciated.

Best Regards,

Margarita Silva

From: Levchenko, Keith (Keith.Levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, May 4, 2011 10:29:39 AM
Cc:
Subject: FW: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report - Councilmember Riemer

Please see the comments from Mr. Fishman below.

Keith Levchenko
Senior Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council Staff
100 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(work) 240-777-7944
(fax) 240-777-7888
keith.levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-----Original Message-----
From: Christmon, Dean
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 4:31 PM
To: Levchenko, Keith
Subject: FW: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report - Councilmember Riemer

Hello Mr. Levchenko,

This constituent has some real questions that are simply beyond me. What can I do or where can I go to get the info needed to answer him? I know you are busy during this budget season so whatever help you can give me will be very appreciated.

Dean E. Christmon | Office of Councilmember Hans Riemer | Visit us: http://councilmemberriemer.blogspot.com/ or http://www.facebook.com/HansRiemer4 | Office (240) 777-7964

-----Original Message-----
From: sheldon fishman (gmail) [mailto:sheldon.fishman@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 4:29 PM
To: Christmon, Dean; Sheldon Fishman
Subject: Re: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report - Councilmember Riemer

thank you.
when should i expect a substantive reply if the councilmember is satisfied with the report and proceeding with more artificial turf fields?.
If he is not satisfied, what will he is willing to do to obtain reliable answers and how can I help him in getting reliable answers?

thanks
sheldon

On Mon, May 2, 2011 at 4:23 PM, Christmon, Dean <Dean.Christmon@montgomerycountymd.gov> wrote:
Yes, Mr. Fishman, your email was received. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Dean E. Christmon | Office of Councilmember Hans Riemer | Visit us: http://councilmemberriemer.blogspot.com/ or http://www.facebook.com/HansRiemer4 | Office (240) 777-

-----Original Message-----
From: sheldon fishman (gmail) [mailto:sheldon.fishman@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 4:19 PM

To: Riemer's Office, Councilmember; councilmember. Hans Riemer
Cc: Pagnucco, Adam; Sheldon Fishman
Subject: Fwd: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report - Councilmember Riemer

Did this message arrive?

I urge you to take action to get an answer to the impact of existing artificial turf fields in our county on our county's water, even if it is not from DEP.

thank you
sheldon
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com
silver spring, md
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **sheldon fishman (gmail)** <sheldon.fishman@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 25, 2011 at 2:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report - Councilmember Riemer
To: "councilmember. Hans Riemer" <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Councilmember Riemer,

Thank you for serving on the T&E Committee. I have heard you speak passionately about protecting the environment and hope serving on T&E provides opportunities for specific positive environmental actions.

I am writing to bring to your attention a recent Council Workgroup report on Artificial Turf fields. This repr was requested in July 2010 by the T&E committee, before you even joined the T&E Committee.
The issues surrounding artificial turf versus natural turf fields are numerous and the proponents on both sides are very
ardent.

I ask you to focus on the environmental issue. One of Councilmember Berliner's questions was "are the artificial turf fields safe, in particular impacts on the quality of water?" In July, 2010, the DEP could not answer that question but offered to test the water samples from Blair football field and maybe other AT fields in the county. DEP promised to deliver their answer in time for a draft public report that would precede the final report due December 31, 2010.

The April, 2011 Report you received did not have an answer from DEP.

I urge you to take action to get an answer to the impact of existing artificial turf fields in our county on our county's water, even if it is not from DEP.

Another way to ask CouncilMember Berliner's question is, "Each new and renewed artificial turf field contains 100 tons of used automobile tires, encapsulated. What is the risk that we are approving -and allocating public funds to create - future hazardous waste sites?" Hans, is that what you want your environmental legacy on the Council to be?

Sheldon
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com
Silver Spring, MD

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **sheldon fishman (gmail)** <sheldon.fishman@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Apr 22, 2011 at 4:11 PM
Subject: T&E and Arttificial Turf Report
To: Roger_council Berliner <councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Committee Chair Berliner,

Thank you for continuing your service on the T&E Committee and thank you for stepping up to Chair.

At the July,2010 T&E committee meeting, you asked the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)- several times- if artificial turf fields were safe for water quality. Eventually the answer was:

1. DEP does not know,
2. the science is mixed;
3. DEP is not testing the runoff but the water samples are collected at Blair HS to measure total runoff and
4. DEP will test the water for toxins and report back with a draft report to the public and final report by Dec 31, 2010

The T&E committee asked MCPS and Parks for actual cost experience for full life cycle comparison. Eventually the answer was we can compile that data and include in the report described above.

The Gazette had a story about this hearing and followed up with a very positive editorial on what a good job the council committee did at that hearing. I agree.

But .... as Chanel 4 says, "does it really do that?"

The draft report was delivered 3+ months late and is does neither of things listed above. It compiles published studies on water quality - no analysis of County AT fields - and compiles made up life cycle data - no data on actual costs and actual revenue of County fields. For example, page 6 of the Artificial Turf Report:

> "DEP's response has been that it does not have a position on artificial turf. DEP has also not provided any specific recommendations regarding the construction and use of artificial turf, such as whether water quality monitoring should be done for existing fields, if specific storm water management practices should be done, or whether particular alternative infill choices should be pursued."

What are your views of the draft report. Hopefully, you too find it unacceptable. If so, what will you do and how can I help you to get an answer to your question are the County's AT fields safe for the water quality.

Regards,

sheldon
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com
cell: 301-318-0091
ps please give me permission to share your response.

Here's the Gazette article on July hearing:
http://www.gazette.net/stories/07072010/montnew185658_32554.php

The Gazette editorial said:
The County Council's Transportation and Environment Committee deserves credit for seeking resolution on a controversial topic that's been heating up as Paint Branch High School works to install artificial turf on its field by next year.

The committee has asked county schools, environmental and parks officials to prepare a report by the end of the year that weighs the costs, risks and benefits of replacing grass athletic fields with artificial turf.
Opponents say the fields heat to dangerous levels, emitting poisonous chemicals that could harm children an environment. Supporters believe the fields are safe and can save the county money while giving children more time to play.
(source: http://www.gazette.net/stories/07142010/montedi173914_32534.php)

--

Sheldon Fishman
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com

sheldon.fishman@gmail.com

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Sheldon Fishman
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com

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Sheldon Fishman
sheldon.fishman@gmail.com

From: Levchenko, Keith (Keith.Levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Wed, May 4, 2011 10:30:27 AM
Cc:
Subject: FW: Artificial turf vs natural turf report

Please see the comments below from Diana Conway and Robert Patton.

Keith Levchenko
Senior Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council Staff
100 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(work) 240-777-7944
(fax) 240-777-7888
keith.levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-----Original Message-----
From: Andrew's Office, Councilmember
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 8:39 AM
To: Andrews, Phil
Cc: McGuire, Essie; Levchenko, Keith; Mandel-Trupp, Lisa
Subject: FW: Artificial turf vs natural turf report

- Original Message-----
: Diana Conway [mailto:dconway@erols.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 6:13 PM
To: Berliner, Roger; Gibson, Cindy; Buffone, Susan; Elrich, Marc; Andrew's Office, Councilmember; Rice, Craig
Cc: Hyslop, Margie; 'Mary Kimm'
Subject: Artificial turf vs natural turf report

Why is none of this information included in the Council's "report"? Before spending millions on fields that go to 170 degrees, can't we have a ... semblance... of full information and open discussion?

Diana

On Mon, May 2, 2011 at 11:03 AM, Rob Patton, Turf Center Lawns <robertppatton@yahoo.com> wrote:
All the issues, pros and cons are the same.
The easiest points to debate in the report are those that are not subjective, based on opinion or speculation of things nobody can confirm.

First The life cycle cost analysis seems bogus for two reasons.
1. They change the life cycle of an artificial field from the manufactures recommended cycle of 10 years to 20. Manufacturers will not guarantee a field for 20 years they dont have any artificial fields nearly that old. Changing the cycle to 20 will inaccurately skew the "costs analysis".

2. They've never invested sufficient resources to even try to maintain a natural grass fields. Let alone the astronomical amount needed to install an artificial. It cost well over 1 million to build an artificial. It cost well under 100,000.00 to completely regrade and sod a natural one. You could rebuild a field every year over ten years and still have a new field the tenth year. as opposed to a degrading artificial one. The costs analysis is ridiculous and blatantly inaccurate. An accurate analysis requires valid information from comparisons of several artificial and natural fields that all received equal funding. This is just a manipulated justification for the convenience of artificial fields. They are easier to

schedule and require less attention and effort initially.

As for the health or playability issues, they remain to be seen and are hard to prove at this point. The cost analysis be the easiest to argue.

Robert P. Patton
Turf Center Lawns

From: StephenGalfond@aol.com (StephenGalfond@aol.com)
To· TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
I : Wed, May 4, 2011 10:40:38 AM
Cc:
Subject: Field for GHS

Dear Sirs - As parents of an 11th grade student at Gaithersburg High School and an 8th grade student at Gaithersburg Middle School, and having lived in the Gaithersburg High School District since 1996, with two other children having previously graduated from Gaithersburg High School, we would like to voice our support for the installation of a turf field at the soon-to-be-remodeled Gaithersburg High School. As you know, the renovation of GHS has been a long time coming, and, in fact, is well overdue, considering all of the construction done at other schools in the county over the past decade. We see no reason why our school should not have similar state-of-the-art accommodations.

Stephen and Laurie Galfond
20506 Addenbrook Way
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
301-990-6461

From: Julie Narum (jeweljafra@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 10:40:47 AM
Cc:
Subject: Support GHS turf field

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to support the installment of a turf field at GHS. My daughters play competitive sports and have played extensively on a turf field. Athletes sustain injuries whether turf or natural grass.

Regards,

David Narum, PhD

From: Levchenko, Keith (Keith.Levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, May 4, 2011 10:44:48 AM
Cc:
Subject: FW: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

See attachment and below.

Keith Levchenko
Senior Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council Staff
100 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(work) 240-777-7944
(fax) 240-777-7888
keith.levchenko@montgomerycountymd.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-----Original Message-----
From: Diana Conway [mailto:dconway@erols.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 10:35 AM
To: Berliner, Roger; Gibson, Cindy; Buffone, Susan; Elrich, Marc; Levchenko, Keith; 'Joe Lavorgna'
Subject: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

I thought you might have an interest in seeing this perspective. From the attached article:

> "Charlie Coffin, sports field manager for the Detroit Lions, shared stories about the challenges of managing a synthetic infill system at Ford Field, a $500 million multiuse professional facility that opened in August 2002. The facility was designed to host up to 120 events a year, including Detroit Lions football games, other sporting events, concerts, banquets, tradeshows, business meetings and conventions. For its first year alone, planners expected 1.5 million people to attend events at Ford Field. "We were sold these fields on the basis that there would be no maintenance,"
>
> Coffin said. "That just wasn't true."

Hopefully you will also read down the brief email thread below, to see what your local turf growers think of the financial analysis of the Council's "report" on AT versus natural turf.
D

From: Morris, Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Morris@ARS.USDA.GOV]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 9:43 AM
To: Michels, Kathleen (NIH/FIC) [E]
Cc: Anne Ambler; Diana Conway; what00now@yahoo.com; Rob Patton, Turf Center Lawns; FresenburgB@missouri.edu; Kevin Scott Mercer; Mike; bill@turfcenterlawns.com; Alex Palluzzi; Turfipmguy@aol.com; doug@laytonsvillelandscaping.com; Kathleen Michels
Subject: RE: Morris response to Help please: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

Kathleen and others:

I agree with Brad that their assumptions on artificial turf longevity are based on many variables that are probably not true. For instance, they assume that the $10,000 per year maintenance cost is sufficient. Amy Fouty, field manager at Michigan State, has come up with estimates for their artificial turf field (indoor, BTW, which should last longer) which puts the costs at more than $20,000 per year (see attached article). If they only plan on $10,000 per year (most of which is a contract to repair the seams), then the field will degrade quicker than expected.

I believe the school system assumes that the local booster club will raise $$ and/or care for the field (sweep, keep clean, etc.). This does not happen, and again, the field will degrade quicker. In reality, the school system does not care if the field degrades, IMO. Just so the kids have some place to play that is not dirt, they have done their job.

The other thing is where are they getting their revenue estimates for the artificial turf? I did not find that spelled out and whether it is realistic.
Kevin Morris
Executive Director, National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
President, National Turfgrass Federation
Phone 301-504-5125

Fax 301-504-5167
Mobile 301-873-6545

-----Original Message-----
From: Michels, Kathleen (NIH/FIC) [E] [mailto:michelsk@ficod.fic.nih.gov]
Sent: Tue 5/3/2011 8:18 PM
To: Morris, Kevin
Cc: Anne Ambler; Diana Conway; what00now@yahoo.com; Rob Patton, Turf Center Lawns; FresenburgB@missouri.edu; Kevin Scott Mercer; Mike; bill@turfcenterlawns.com; Alex Palluzzi; Turfipmguy@aol.com; doug@laytonsvillelandscaping.com; Kathleen Michels
Subject: RE: Morris response to Help please: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

Thanks so much Kevin , looking forward to your response. Especially given your work on turfgrasses and as well on locally 'engineered' soils for sports fields reported in 2010.

From: Morris, Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Morris@ARS.USDA.GOV]
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 3:04 PM
To: Rob Patton, Turf Center Lawns; FresenburgB@missouri.edu; Kevin Scott Mercer; Mike; bill@turfcenterlawns.com; Alex Palluzzi; Turfipmguy@aol.com; doug@laytonsvillelandscaping.com; Kathleen Michels
Cc: Anne Ambler; Diana Conway; Michels, Kathleen (NIH/FIC) [E]; what00now@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: Help please: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

Kathleen,

Robert makes several very valid points. In my opinion, the arguments to address are the longevity estimates (as Robert pointed out), the fact that $1 million is not anywhere close to what is needed for a good natural field over ten years, and if possible, the amount of play issue (resodding/repairing on a regular basis).

I was out of the office most of last week but I will take time to look at this and get back to you by Wednesday.

Kevin Morris
Executive Director, National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
President, National Turfgrass Federation
Phone 301-504-5125
Fax 301-504-5167
Mobile 301-873-6545

-----Original Message-----
From: Rob Patton, Turf Center Lawns [mailto:robertppatton@yahoo.com]
Sent: Mon 5/2/2011 11:03 AM
To: FresenburgB@missouri.edu; 'Kevin Scott Mercer'; Morris, Kevin; 'Mike'; bill@turfcenterlawns.com; 'Alex Palluzzi'; Turfipmguy@aol.com; doug@laytonsvillelandscaping.com; Kathleen Michels
Cc: 'Anne Ambler'; Diana Conway; Kathleen (NIH/FIC) [E]"Michels; what00now@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: Help please: Artificial turf vs natural turf report: PLEASE COMMENT by May 7

All the issues, pros and cons are the same.
The easiest points to debate in the report are those that are not subjective, based on opinion or speculation of things nobody can confirm.

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2. They've never invested sufficient resources to even try to maintain a natural grass fields. Let alone the astronomical amount needed to install an artificial. It cost well over 1 million to build an artificial. It cost well under 100,000.00 to completely regrade and sod a natura. You could rebuild a field every year over ten years and still have a new field the tenth year. as opposed to a degrading artificial one. The costs analysis is ridiculous and blatantly inaccurate. An accurate analysis requires valid information from comparisons of several artificial and natural fields that all received equal funding. This is just a manipulated justification for the convenience of artificial fields. They are easier to schedule and require less attention and effort initially.

As for the health or playability issues, they remain to be seen and are hard to prove at this point. The cost analysis may be the easiest to argue.

, :t P. Patton

Turf Center Lawns

(301)980-0576

(301)384-9300

www.turfcenterlawns.com

www.tcl-commercial.com

robertppatton@yahoo.com

ATHLETIC TURF

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Experts spell out the true cost of synthetic turf maintenance

May 24, 2005
By: Lynne Brakeman
Athletic Turf News

ATHLETIC TURF NEWS

Outside Contractor Maintenance Charges	
Consultation and/or Training	$1,200 to $3,000 per day plus expenses
Repairs	$30 to $70 per linear foot
Crumb Rubber	$.50 to $1.00 per pound applied

Source: "A Sports Field Manager's Perspective: Synthetic Turf Construction Considerations, Maintenance Costs & Concerns," Amy J. Fouty, CSFM, MiSTMA Synthetic Turf Infill Seminar, Detroit, May 11, 2005.

Detroit — Maintaining synthetic turf systems is not as inexpensive or as "labor free" as some people may have been lead to believe.

That was the take-home message from the Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association's (MiSTMA) May 11 Synthetic Turf Infill Maintenance Seminar held at the Detroit Lions' practice facility in Dearborn, MI.

About 75 attendees represented the entire spectrum of job titles that typically get involved in athletic field management in schools, universities and park systems: from custodians right up through athletic directors.

You could tell the ADs because they were the ones with the cell phones glued to their ears at every break.

Attendees were treated to a compressed introduction to synthetic turf systems. Along the way, they got some tips on painting synthetic surfaces from a vendor, met with regional equipment and supply vendors and got a tour of the Lions' three-year-old, multi-million dollar practice facility and its state of the art grounds shop.

The Detroit Lions' Headquarters and Training Facility cost $35.5 million and opened in 2002. The 460,000 sq. ft. complex includes a full-size indoor synthetic turf practice field, 2.5 outdoor practice fields, an auditorium and (of course) lots and lots of amenities for the players. MiSTMA members got to tour the facility on a brisk but beautiful spring day.

The architect/builder

Bruce Lemons founded **Foresite Design** in 1990. His firm plans and builds athletic facilities. He has designed many synthetic infill system fields for schools and parks around Michigan. Lemons was a founding member of the Synthetic Turf Council (STC) which is creating voluntary industry standards for synthetic infill system manufacturers. He said STC is also

SURVEY

The publicity over the incidence of staph infections has died down, but lots of professional teams, universities and high schools are treating their synthetic turf fields with anti-microbial products. A field manager we know says he does his to "cover his _ _ _." You can fill in the blanks. These treatments aren't cheap, typically in the range of 10 cents per sq. ft. for product. What do you think?

- The threat is real and the cost is justified
- I'm not sure, but we treat anyway
- If I get more proof of a problem, we'll treat
- Lots of hype, but no convincing evidence yet

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FIELD MAINTENANCE

- We want it green, but clean too
- ToolCat utility vehicle does it all
- PGMS branch tours Great American Ball Park
- Turf conditioning 'heats up' on NFL fields
- Toro 'Super Bowl' deadline Oct. 16
- Fines help but cooperation the real key
- New law targets resident geese
- Toro adds deep-tine aeration line
- Underhill long-throw sprinkler designed to syringe synthetic and natural turf
- Turf-Tec redesigns precipitation gauges
- Toro, NIAAA team to fix softball field
- Baseball at Busch and beer at $7.25 a bottle
- Keep America Playing Tour visits K.C. and Washington D.C. in October

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preparing position papers to answer frequently asked questions about synthetic infill system construction and maintenance.

Lemons showed slides of the synthetic field construction process. He warned attendees planning on installing new infill systems to make sure the contract requires testing the carpet material *before* the manufacturer sends it out to a finisher to apply the latex or polyurethane backing.

"You have to have the results before it is shipped to you," Lemons said. "Because if it's not to spec when you receive it, you will end up in negotiations with the manufacturer."

Lemons said his experience has shown that after a few years, the Gmax values (a rmeasure of hardness) can vary quite a bit in different parts of a synthetic field. Since the consistency of the surface is very important to the safety of athletes, Lemons said his company is changing its specifications to stipulate that the Gmax values over the entire field must remain within plus or minus 5%.

Lemons passed around a 2 in.-thick piece of dense "e-layer" shock absorption pad manufactured from recycled rubber and urethane. Although it increases the initial cost of an infill system, many experts recommend paving a seamless e-layer over the asphalt or gravel base prior to laying synthetic turf. The substance is installed just like an athletic track and provides an extra cushion for the surface.

Lemons said new monofilament fiber technology is on the horizon that will offer better wear and performance characteristics and a longer guarantee than the current slit-film technology.

The university athletic turf manager

Amy J. Fouty, CSFM, athletic turf manager for **Michigan State University** (MSU), currently supervises the Astroplay indoor practice field at Duffy Daugherty Football Building and a modular natural bluegrass field at Spartan Stadium. In her previous position at the University of Michigan, she managed a Field Turf infill system. Fouty believes synthetic systems have a definite place in an athletic field manager's toolkit.

Bruce Lemons, president of Foresite Design, was among the founding members of the Synthetic Turf Council. He gave MiSTMA members an overview of synthetic turf system construction considerations.

Amy J. Fouty, CSFM, athletic turf manager for Michigan State University and her colleague, Mark Viele, grounds keeper, MSU football fields. Fouty presented details about the cost of maintaining MSU's synthetic turf practice field.

Charlie Coffin, sports field manager for the Detroit Lions in front of the facility's "just-for-fun" putting green. Coffin shared his experience maintaining the synthetic surface at Detroit's Ford Field.

: Compacted fields need aerification, and often

: Underhill valves give better water control when syringing sports fields

Attendees take a break on the Detroit Lions' Practice Facility indoor synthetic infill field.

"However, safety is our first priority," she said. "There are concerns with regard to the safety of the products used to make the fields, as well as with how to clean and disinfect synthetic infill fields. Synthetic infill manufacturers need to get information and solutions out to the people who have to deal with these issues on a daily basis."

Fouty said her three main concerns are:

- Safety (stability and footing)
- Playability (consistency and confidence)
- Aesthetics

Fouty prefers sewn seams to glued seams because they are stronger, more flexible and last longer. When it comes to line markings, she recommends spending the money to tuft-in as much as possible.

"If you paint lines, the first time you groom over the lines the product spreads over the field. The dried paint is abrasive, slippery and the lines don't look good very long," she said.

Fouty had her crew manufacture a field magnet that can be dragged over the field once or twice a year to capture metal objects that get tossed or dropped. And, for the first few years, static control is a problem that requires a spray of diluted fabric softener.

"It also takes away the old tire smell," Fouty said. "Without the fabric softener, our indoor facility smells like old tires and locker rooms."

The meat of Fouty's presentation was a break down of the maintenance budget for MSU's indoor practice field. You could see field managers scribbling notes as she listed the actual maintenance equipment needed, typical costs for outside contractors and cost for materials and labor for regular field grooming. Bottom line: MSU's field costs nearly $23,000 a year to maintain.

Synthetic Turf Maintenance Equipment	
Boom Sprayer	$1,000 to $35,000
Sweeper	$1,500 to $20,000
Broom	$500 to $3,000
Painter	$500 to $3,000
Groomer	$1,500 to $2,000
Cart (to tow equipment)	$2,500 to $16,000
Field Magnet	$500 to $1,000
Rollers	$250 to $2,000
Total:	$8,250 to $82,000

Source: "A Sports Field Manager's Perspective: Synthetic Turf Construction Considerations, Maintenance Costs & Concerns," Amy J. Fouty, CSFM, MiSTMA Synthetic Turf Infill Seminar, Detroit, May 11, 2005.

2004-2005 Maintenance Budget Synthetic Infill Field (three-year-old surface)	
Seam Repairs (outside contractor; $30 per linear foot)	$8,000
Apply Crumb Rubber (1x per year; 20 hours per application; 10 tons of top dressing @ $500 per ton)	$5,000

Spray Field (4x per year; 3.5 oz rate per 1,000 sq. ft.; 3 hours each; 12 hours per year)	$216
Fabric softener @ $7 per 64 oz. container	$120
Disinfectant @ $5 per gallon)	$100
Sweep Field Parker Sweeper; 4x per year; 8 hours each; 32 hours per year	$1,500
Broom	$500
Groomer	$1,500
Hand Pick (3x per week; 1 hour ea.; 156 hours per year @ $18 per hour)	$2,800
Paint Field (2x per year; 30 hours ea.; 60 hours per year; 30-40 gal. per year @ $25 per gal.)	$1,000
Total Straight Hourly Cost (Field only; 280 hours @ $18 per hour; benefits not included)	$5,040
Total Supply Cost	$6,220
Total Equipment Cost	$3,500
Total Outside Contractor Repairs	$8,000
Total Maintenance Cost 2004-2005	**$22,760**

Source: "A Sports Field Manager's Perspective: Synthetic Turf Construction Considerations, Maintenance Costs & Concerns," Amy J. Fouty, CSFM, MiSTMA Synthetic Turf Infill Seminar, Detroit, May 11, 2005.

The professional field manager

Seminar attendees got to meet equipment and material vendors during a tour of the facility's shop.

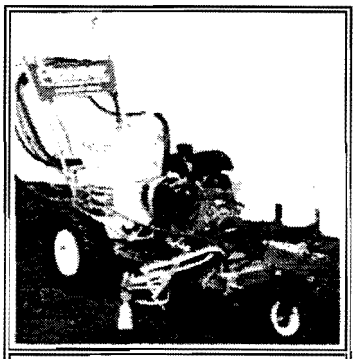
Charlie Coffin, sports field manager for the Detroit Lions, shared stories about the challenges of managing a synthetic infill system at **Ford Field**, a $500 million multi-use professional facility that opened in August 2002. The facility was designed to host up to 120 events a year, including Detroit Lions football games, other sporting events, concerts, banquets, tradeshows, business meetings and conventions. For its first year alone, planners expected 1.5 million people to attend events at Ford Field.

"We were sold these fields on the basis that there would be no maintenance," Coffin said. "That just wasn't true."

Coffin said planners decided the covered field didn't need a drainage system. But with no rain to flush through the infill system, contamination has become a worrisome issue. What to do about erasing paint lines alone has become a major headache. Because so many types of sports are played on the field, Coffin is painting and erasing lines every week of the year.

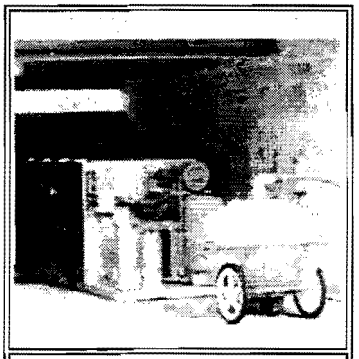
During one event, Coffin noticed that the opposing team had set up a tent along the sidelines. It turned out, rather than take a long walk to get to the bathroom, the players were using the tent as cover and peeing right onto the field.

Craig O'Berry from Pioneer Paint shares turf painting tips on the practice field.



Coffin's synthetic turf line marker uses a special paint that is formulated to be flexible when dry.

Essential equipment: utility vehicles, mowers and hoops.



The Detroit Lions' Practice Facility was designed to be environmentally responsible.

With events as diverse as flea markets and marathons, Coffin says he can quickly fill a magnet with the junk that gets dropped on the field. Covering the field for events like rock concerts has been another adventure. Coffin discovered that laying down plywood meant the field got filled with wood splinters that had to be picked out by hand.

Coffin recommended the field managers be sure and cover areas that would get heavy foot traffic with canvas.

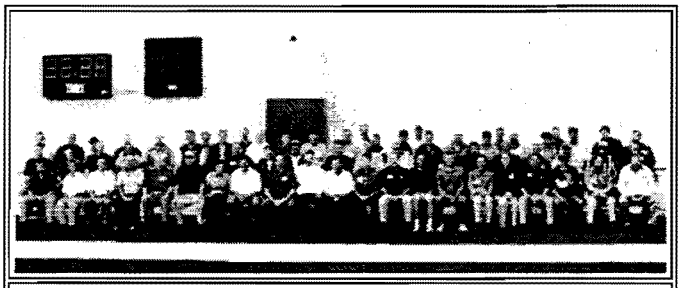
"But, Lord help me! Do *not* use duct tape," he exclaimed. "We taped a sideline tarp down once. In order to get the glue off the turf we sat on our hands and knees rubbing Goof-Off® into the fibers."

Despite the hairy stories of trial and error, Coffin, like Fouty, said he has gained respect for synthetic turf systems.

"This synthetic indoor field has made our outdoor facilities better," Coffin said. "When it rains, they go inside. That improves the main field. As a grass guy, I didn't really want a synthetic field at first. But it's been good for us. In fact, we're now thinking about installing an outdoor synthetic field."

This water recyling station cleans and filters the water used to clean mowers and vehicles.

These filters capture grass clippings, dirt, fertilizer and other contaminants from the reclaimed water before it is recycled.



More than 75 athletic field managers and athletic directors learned a lot at MiSTMA's 2005 Synthetic Infill System Maintenance Seminar.

Related Story

: Letters: FieldTurf responds to synthetic turf maintenance estimates

About the Author

Lynne Brakeman

About Lynne Brakeman
email: lbrakeman@questex.com
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From: Castonguay, James M. (James_M_Castonguay@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 11:01:37 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Field For GHS

Hello,

I am Jim Castonguay, the girls JV soccer coach at Gaithersburg High school. I am writing to support getting a Turf surface for the stadium at Gaithersburg High. A turf field is a dramatically better playing surface for soccer in most all respects. It is a safer field for the consistency of the surface. There are no rut's holes gaps or bald spots. In soccer, for the JV level of play, the consistent field eliminates a level of uncertainty in the game. That in turn allows the girls to concentrate on their game and what is going on around them. It also provides a better coaching environment, by guaranteeing that the field won't cause the errors.

There are several other benefits to the field, but for the safety alone I feel the field is worthwhile. Please allow Gaithersburg High school to improve our facilities and help our teams.

Thank You,
Jim Castonguay
JV Soccer
Gaithersburg High

From: Vergelli Jan (busymomjv@yahoo.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Wed, May 4, 2011 11:40:56 AM
Cc:
Subject: turf at the new Gaithersburg High School

As parents of a future GHS student, we are in favor of turf for our newly constructed fields.
Jan and John Vergelli

From: runhatrun@comcast.net (runhatrun@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 11:59:19 AM
Cc:
Subject: fieldturf for Gaithersburg

As a 30 + year staff member and coach at Gaithersburg high, I strongly encourage the County to approve the installation of field-turf on the new fields at Gaithersburg. The benefits of field-turf out weigh any perceived negatives. Herb Tolbert

From: Cooper II, Gilbert B. (Gilbert_B_CooperII@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Wed, May 4, 2011 12:02:30 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

I am in favor of getting turf at Gaithersburg High School. There is overwhelming evidence that schools stand to gain in every measure with the addition of turf fields to their athletic program.

Gilbert Cooper II
11th Grade English Teacher
African American Literature Teacher
Varsity Tennis Coach

From: Warren, Lisa (Lisa.Warren@ghill.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 12:04:31 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

Lisa M. Warren
GreenHill
301-444-1944
301-515-9092 (Fax)
lisa.warren@ghill.com

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From: Hjoi@aol.com (Hjoi@aol.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Wed, May 4, 2011 12:38:33 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf field for Gaitihersburg H.S.

Hello,

I am in full support of a turf field for Gaithersburg H.S.! This would be economical and a fine source of pride for the Trojans football team.

GHS has waited a LONG time for a new facility, and with the upcoming reconstruction, new turf for the football field will only add to the improvements.

Other schools in the county have turf fields (i.e. Richard Montgomery, etc.) so why not us?

Thank you,
Heidi Smigocki
Proud Parent of Gaithersburg H.S.

From: Swiger, Christy D (Christy_D_Swiger@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 12:48:19 PM
Cc:
Subject: We Need a Turf Field at Gaithersburg High School!!!!

Dear Sirs,

I have been a Gaithersburg High School Parent since 1995. I am currently a coach for the poms at GHS and have been for the past seven years.

We are thrilled that it has finally become our time for renovations, after numerous postponements over the last decade!!!

I am writing to you to recommend having the turf field installed on our football field. There are some obvious reasons for why we should get the turf field such as:

It provides a venue and place for all of the teams at our school to practice. It reduces the amount of landscaping upkeep that is required. It has permanent markings that don't have to be re-done weekly or even daily. (I have spent many an afternoon assisting with the process of placing hash marks on the field), It creates a very safe area for all of the physical education classes to work out and of course a safe place for our athletic teams to perform on. We would be able to increase our school revenue from our superb concession stand, which benefits all of our schools income when we are permitted to hold state semi finals contests and final contests.
And, what is absolutely terrific about having the turf field is that I do not have to cancel performances of our pom squad at half time due to the unsafe nature of the slippery field when it is misting, or we have had previous rainstorms that have altered the playing field. This has happened on numerous occasions over the past decade. The field woul t be safe for the pom squad to perform their dance/pom routines. We never want to take a chance when it comes to the safety of our athletes performing. It is very disappointing when your squad has spent everyday in practice after school to have a routine to entertain the audience at half-time only to have to cancel due to unsafe conditions. The safety issue for our football, soccer, lacrosse players is monumental when we have had rain. Obviously having the turf would also reduce the number of rainouts or postponements, and we would not be scrambling to have make up contests. In addition, we would not have to go to another school's turf field to play games if our field is not appropriate for play. The amount of revenue that has been lost by GHS cannot be calculated because of going to fields such as Richard Montgomery to play on because of their terrific turf field.

I thank your for your time with this manner. Gaithersburg High School has waited many years to have a new building and fields, please don't disappoint us in our request and need for the turf field.

Sincerely,

Christy Swiger
Speech Pathologist at Belmont Elementary School;
Pom Coach at Gaithersburg High School,
Parent of two graduates from GHS, 1999, 2005.

From: Davis, Robert A (Robert_A_Davis@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
[illegible]: Wed, May 4, 2011 1:55:24 PM
Cc: Jason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org;
Subject: Turf fields

There are many advantages to having turf fields for athletics. Here are some of those advantages:

*
They create a safe playing environment for athletic and PE classes
* They allow ALL the teams to practice on campus
* They require less property to be utilized.
* They reduce or eliminate postponements due to weather and the number of re-scheduled contests.
* They allow a school to hold state, semi, and final contests which generate revenue increases for the school through the concession stand.
* Maintenance required is substantially reduced including seeding, mowing and painting.
* They generate a positive and professional image of the institution.
* Contestants play a higher level of competition on turf surfaces.

Bob Davis [illegible]

Teacher of Mathematics

Case Manager

Assistant Football Coach

Gaithersburg High School

From: Sullivan, Jeffrey K. (Jeffrey_K_Sullivan@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 2:18:05 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support

I support the installation of artificial turf fields at all Montgomery County high schools.

Jeff Sullivan, CMAA
Athletic Director
Clarksburg High School
Office # 301-444-3523
Cell # 301-674-1743
www.chscoyotes.com

From: Cheryl Varkalis (cherylvarkalis@verizon.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
: Wed, May 4, 2011 3:08:22 PM
Cc:
Subject: We need a Turf Field at Gaithersburg High School

Dear Sir or Madam -

We are thrilled that it has finally come time for GHS renovations, after numerous postponements over the last decade!!!

I am writing to you to request having the turf field installed on our football field. There are some obvious reasons for why we should get the turf field such as:

It provides a venue and place for all of the teams at our school to practice. It reduces the amount of landscaping upkeep that is required. It has permanent markings that don't have to be re-done weekly or even daily. It creates a very safe area for all of the physical education classes to work out and of course a safe place for our athletic teams to perform on.

We would be able to increase our school revenue from our superb concession stand, which benefits all of our schools income when we are permitted to hold state semi finals contests and final contests.

The safety issue for our football, soccer, lacrosse players is monumental when we have had rain. Obviously having the turf would also reduce the number of rainouts or postponements, and we would not be scrambling to have make up contests. In addition, we would not have to go to another school's turf field to play games if our field is not appropriate for play. The amount of revenue that has been lost by GHS cannot be calculated because of going to fields such as ard Montgomery to play on because of their terrific turf field.

I thank your for your time with this manner. Gaithersburg High School has waited many years to have a new building and fields, please don't disappoint us in our request and need for the turf field.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Varkalis
Pom Mom of Gaithersburg High School Graduate Class of 2009

From: Warren, Jim (Jim.Warren@ghill.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 5:40:03 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Support

There are many benefits of using turf fields. Some of them are:

1. Allows all the teams to practice on campus – big safety benefit
2. Creates a safe playing environment for athletic and PE classes – big safety benefit
3. Reduces rainouts and make ups contests
4. Able to hold state semi and final contests which generates revenue for the school through the concession stand

Jim Warren
Gaithersburg HS parent and supporter

Jim Warren
President
GreenHill
20251 Century Blvd
Suite 140
Germantown , MD 20874
jim.warren@ghill.com
301-444-1901 (direct)
301-515-9092 (fax)

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From: Denise Huttenlocker (deehutt@comcast.net)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 8:46:44 PM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Support

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for field turf at the Gaithersburg High School stadium field. Artificial field turf will save on long-term maintenance and care costs, which would favorably impact the MCPS annual budget, as well as help the City of Gaithersburg to greatly conserve water as the need for irrigation would be eliminated. Field turf is more environmentally friendly than a grass field, with no pesticides or goose feces, and also provides a safer playing surface for our athletes and PE classes. A muddy, uneven grass field can result in injuries to the players and students. Field turf would also allow games to be played regardless of weather, thereby reducing the number of cancellations and make-up games. Finally, the new surface would offer GHS the opportunity to host state semi and final championships games which would generate additional income for the school through concession stand sales.

Our student athletes are dedicated and work extremely hard year round, and therefore deserve a first class playing field.

Thank you.

Denise Huttenlocker

From: Gail Lipton (kobi2087@msn.com)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Wed, May 4, 2011 8:55:01 PM
Cc:
Subject: athletic field turf

This email is in support of artificial turf for the Quince Orchard High School athletic field. The turf would provide a safer, more consistent, and more competitive surface for our youth, and would provide a safe, on-campus practice area as well. Teams that generally can't play on the field because of horrendous field conditions would be able to play on it, as the rain would not spoil the field conditions. Our maintenance costs would be seriously decreased since we would no longer have to seed, fertilize, water and cover all the time. And PE classes would for the first time be able to use the field during the off system, which would be a win-win for everyone.

Gail Lipton

--- No trees were destroyed in the sending of this e-mail.
However, a great number of electrons were terribly inconvenienced. ---

please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Tom Collins (tcollins@avail-tvn.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, May 5, 2011 9:30:43 AM
Cc:
Subject: quince orchard HS artificial turf

I support installing artificial turf field at Quince Orchard High School. My 3 children have all graduated from Quince Orchard, I believe artificial turf would be a great benefit to the community and county.

Tom Collins

From: Yi, Jessica J (Jessica_J_Yi@mcpsmd.org)
To: turfreportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, May 5, 2011 10:23:06 AM
Cc:
Subject: Turf Field

As the JV girls soccer coach at Springbrook HS I AM in support of the turf field.

Thank you!
-Ms. Jessica Yi
Francis Scott Key Middle School
(301) 422-5600 ext. 1040
6th Grade Math 7 Teacher

From: Cudd, Kenneth N. (Kenneth_N_Cudd@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Sent: Thu, May 5, 2011 12:34:02 PM
Cc:
Subject: Support

Good Afternoon –

I heartily support the workgroup's recommendation.

Ken Cudd
Athletic Director
SSL Coordinator
John F. Kennedy HS
(301)962-5936

From: Welter, Daniel M. (Daniel_M_Welter@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Thu, May 5, 2011 2:35:22 PM
Cc:
Subject: In favor

As a former lacrosse coach, at DHS I can say that a turf field would be wonderful. The stadium fields across the county are used especially hard. They have multiple teams using them and outside organizations that use them. This often times causes the fields to become nothing but dirt and rocks for the spring season and even late the fall season. Due to the constant use on the fields they become in some cases unsafe for the school teams to use and increase the risk of injury to the students. While turf has its' own set of problems I think that those are small compared to those that the current fields cause.

Dan Welter
Damascus High School

From: Mary Jo Zell (maryjo@idsfund.com)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
:: Thu, May 5, 2011 7:14:08 PM
Cc:
Subject: Artificial Turf

Artificial turf causes more injury to student atheletes. My vote is for QOHS to remain with real turf.

Senior Partner
Integrated Development Solutions
16233 Orchard View Ct.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Cell 301-233-3527
Fax 301-216-1994
ted@idsfund.com

From: Benz, Joan L. (Joan_L_Benz@mcpsmd.org)
To: TurfReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Fri, May 6, 2011 12:12:58 PM
Cc:
Subject: [No Subject]

May 6, 2011

Dear County Council Member:

As the Chairperson of the Montgomery County Public Schools' Secondary Athletic Association (MCPSSAA), I represent the High School Principals of Montgomery County, all of whom are members of MCPSSAA. It is important that you hear our perspective on the installation of turf fields in our stadiums.

Maintenance costs for grass fields become more exorbitant each year. It is nearly impossible to sufficiently fundraise to supplement MCPS allocations to keep grass fields at a safe standard for our players. Secondly, turf fields enable expanded use of fields and consistency of established game schedules, causing less frustration for players, coaches and parents. Artificial turf fields result in economic and efficiency gains for all.

Please consider our support of artificial turf fields as new high schools are built or as older schools are modernized. We appreciate your time and efforts on our behalf.

Very sincerely,

(Dr.) Joan Benz
MCPSSAA Chairperson

JCB:red

Print - Close Window

Subject:Gaithersburg High School Booster Club Supports Turf Stadium Field
From: Warren, Lisa (Lisa.Warren@ghill.com)
To: turfr eportresponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Sun, 08 May 2011 22:35:33

<<Response_Letter_GHS_BC.pdf>>

Lisa M. Warren
GreenHill
301-444-1944
301-515-9092 (Fax)
lisa.warren@ghill.com

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Trojan Booster Club
Gaithersburg High School
314 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

May 8, 2011

Staff Work Group
Montgomery County Public Schools
Montgomery County Department of Parks
Montgomery County Council
Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection

Dear Members of the Staff Work Group,

We would like to inform the work group that the Gaithersburg High School Booster Club strongly supports the installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School as part of our school modernization. Our booster club members and school community members have attended the informational forums and are aware of the issues, both pro and con associated with turf fields.

The installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School will bring great benefits to our students, our school and our community. With a turf stadium field, all athletes will be able to practice on site. We will no longer have to send students off campus to practice. This increases the safety of our practices, as well as improves the overall athletic experience for our athletes and their families.

A turf field not only benefits our athletes, but all our students. Currently physical education students are not permitted on the stadium field. With a turf field, all physical education classes will be able to utilize the stadium field. Our entire community will also benefit from a turf field at Gaithersburg High School with the ability to utilize the field for community based sports and events.

We are also excited that the turf field will provide a safe, level and consistent playing field for our athletes. We are also looking forward to the added benefit of reduced weather cancellations (and their associated make-up scheduling) which will make for much more streamlined sports seasons.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to voice that we feel a turf stadium field is the best solution for the Gaithersburg High School community. Please let us know if we can provide you with any further information or you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Warren
Booster Club President
Gaithersburg High School

Print - Close Window

Subject:Thoughts on Pro-Turf Subject Matter Expert
From: Warren, Lisa (Lisa.Warren@ghill.com)
To: turfr eportresponse@yahoo.com;
Cc: J ason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org;
Date: Sun, 08 May 2011 22:57:40

Members of the Staff Work Group,

As a representative of Gaithersburg High School, I was able to attend last week's informational forum where you presented the findings from your study. I found the evening's presentation and discussion both informative and enlightening.

This idea has probably already been raised, but I did have a thought regarding the scientific testimony that I heard last week and that has been presented before and will certainly be presented as the decision process heats up. It would make sense to me that the pro-turf side needs a subject matter expert that can confidently refute those claims that are questionable and draw attention to those claims that are possible, but not currently proven. Having the report work group members say that this study and/or that study does or doesn't agree with certain claims doesn't quite have the weight that an expert rebuttal would have. The subject matter expert could also reel off additional facts and findings in quick fashion to demonstrate credibility. I do have to admit that Mary (I believe that was her name) does present the anti-turf side very well. Your report is a fabulous, comprehensive and factual presentation of the issues related to turf fields and I would hate to have it short changed by being out "tech talked."

As you know, the Gaithersburg High School community strongly supports a turf field for our stadium. Please let me know if there is anything further we can do to help move this process forward.

Lisa M. Warren
Booster Club President
Gaithersburg High School
301-444-1944
301-515-9092 (Fax)
lisa.warren@ghill.com

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Subject:Support of Turf Field for Gaithersburg High School
From: Warren, Lisa (Lisa.Warren@ghill.com)
To: Turf ReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Sun, 08 May 2011 23:45:47

As a member of the Gaithersburg High School community, I am strongly in favor of a turf field for our new stadium field.

The installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School will bring great benefits to our students, our school and our community. We will no longer have to send students off campus to practice. A turf field will provide a safe playing environment for athletes and our PE classes. And a turf field will reduce the number of weather cancellations and make-up contests. These are just a few of the benefits a turf field will bring to Gaithersburg.

Lisa Warren
Parent of 2 GHS student athletes

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Subject:Turf Field at Gaihersburg High School
From: Rsberg (rsberg@aol.com)
To: Turf ReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Cc: L isa.Warren@ghill.com;
Date: Mon, 09 May 2011 00:25:28

To Whom It May Concern:

As a college student, I played football on a turf field and benefited from the safer, more efficient playing surface that a turf field affords. As the father of a GHS student, I believe a turf field is the best choice for MCPS for our children. As a member of the Gaithersburg High School community, I am strongly in favor of a turf field for our new stadium field.

The installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School will bring great benefits to our students, our school and our community. We will no longer have to send students off campus to practice. A turf field will provide a safe playing environment for athletes and our PE classes. And a turf field will reduce the number of weather cancellations and make-up contests. These are just a few of the benefits a turf field will bring to Gaithersburg.

Sincerely,

Roger Sandberg
GHS Parent

Print - Close Window

ect:Turf Fields at Gaithersburg High School
From: Trish (phsigler@verizon.net)
To: Turf ReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, 09 May 2011 06:36:55

To Whom this Concerns:

As a member of the Gaithersburg High School community, I am strongly in favor of a turf field for our new stadium field.

The installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School will bring great benefits to our students, our school and our community. We will no longer have to send students off campus to practice. A turf field will provide a safe playing environment for athletes and our PE classes. And a turf field will reduce the number of weather cancellations and make-up contests. These are just a few of the benefits a turf field will bring to Gaithersburg.

Patricia Sigler
Parent of student
Gaithersburg High School

Print - Close Window

Subject:[No Subject]
From: Atwood, Paula (AtwoodP@abacustech.com)
To: Turf ReportResponse@yahoo.com;
Date: Mon, 09 May 2011 07:40:08

As a member of the Gaithersburg High School community, I am strongly in favor of a turf field for our new stadium field.
The installation of a turf stadium field at Gaithersburg High School will bring great benefits to our students, our school and our community. We will no longer have to send students off campus to practice. A turf field will provide a safe playing environment for athletes and our PE classes. And a turf field will reduce the number of weather cancellations and make-up contests. These are just a few of the benefits a turf field will bring to Gaithersburg.
"YOUR NAME"
"AFFILIATION WITH GHS" (Parent, Student, Coach, Teacher, Alumni, etc.)
The public comment period closes May 13, so **your message must be sent no later than Friday, May 13**. Please pass this message along to encourage others to send a response. Students and alumni can also send their responses.
Please let me know or copy me on your e-mail so I can gauge our response and send out another plea if we are falling short.
Thanks for you help. We will all reap the benefits of this effort.