

Q: What is synthetic turf?

- It is not “Astroturf” (carpet over concrete)
- Turf fields now being installed are the new generation of synthetic turf and are much softer than the hard Astroturf surface
- A turf field is generally comprised of a carpet of synthetic turf, along with an infill product which sits on a fine stone aggregate base.
- The carpet fibers are generally 2”-2.5” long and denser than earlier generation providing a forgiving surface

Q: Why should we consider synthetic turf

- Facilitates more playing time
- Better and safer playing surface
- Reduction in maintenance costs

Q: How do Turf Fields Facilitate More Playing Time?

- Open all year round
- Recovery From Weather (Rain storms and winter)
- Elimination of “Resting” time

Q. Do the Hen Hud athletic teams play against other schools on synthetic turf?

Yes, below is a breakdown of the schools Hen Hud competes against in regards to synthetic turf. The “Class” is the respective class Hen Hud competes in Section One at with its neighboring schools.

- In Class A Football 21 of the 25 schools have synthetic turf
- In Class A Boys Soccer, 23 out of 28 schools have synthetic turf
- In Class A Girls Soccer, 23 out of the 28 schools have synthetic turf
- In Class B Field Hockey, 14 out of the 19 schools have synthetic turf
- In Class C Boys Lacrosse, 6 out of the 11 schools have synthetic turf
- In Class C Girls Lacrosse, 10 out of the 15 schools have synthetic turf

Q: How does synthetic turf impact the environment?

- Less pollution, geese droppings and fertilizer
- Water conservation
- Crumb Rubber Infill
- Geese eat about 5 SF of grass per bird, expel about 1/3 cup each day

Q: Is synthetic turf safe?

- Well maintained natural is as safe as artificial turf
- What if the fields are not or cannot be well maintained?
 - o Uneven playing surface
 - o Compressed playing surfaces
- Synthetic turf is a consistent quality playing surface

Q: Are athletes playing on a synthetic turf more susceptible to MRSA/staph infections?

MRSA, and other pathogens, are not transmitted through the field, but by poor sanitary practices.

Q: What impact does synthetic turf have on playing time?

Right now, our current field utilization is September, October, and part of November for the fall season. Then, in the spring, we use it in April, May and part of June. If the district transitions to a synthetic turf, the field could be used year round.

Q: What are the potential benefits of turf?

- Less weather related closings
- Early season spring practices
- Physical Education class utilization
- Summer workouts
- Town of Cortlandt Recreation usage
- Protecting all ancillary
- Competitive balance with opponents
- Increased night time and weekend usage
- All-season play

Q: Is there a reduction in Maintenance Costs?

- Annual cost of maintenance to natural field is approximately \$26,000 to \$47,000
- Annual cost of maintenance to artificial field is approximately \$10,000
- Life expectancy of artificial field is approximately 10-15 years
- Typical manufacturer warranty is 8 years