



## Frequently Asked Questions

 **SEARCH** » ▼[Share](#) |

The Synthetic Turf Council provides the community with honest responses to their most frequently asked questions. Just click on a question and the answer will drop-down below it. We have compiled answers within the following topical categories:

- [Synthetic Turf – General](#)
- [Health & Environmental Impact](#)
- [Player Usage & Injuries](#)
- [Cost, Installation, Maintenance and Disposal](#)

### SYNTHETIC TURF - GENERAL

**Q: What is synthetic turf?**

**Q: How is synthetic turf made?**

**Q: How is the new generation of synthetic turf different from that of the past?**

**Q: Why has synthetic turf become so popular over the past few years?**

**Q: How popular is synthetic grass for landscape and recreation use?**

**Q: How is synthetic turf being used in the landscape and recreation market?**

**Q: What are the different types of infill materials?**

#### **HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

**Q: How does synthetic turf impact the environment?**

**Q: Is synthetic turf safe?**

**Q: Should I be concerned about lead in my field?**

**Q: Is crumb rubber safe?**

**Q: What impact does heat have on my synthetic turf field?**

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

MRSA and other staph infections strike due to poor hygiene, regardless of type of playing surface. That's because it is spread by people in close contact with each other, like athletic team members, healthcare providers and patients, children in day care centers, military

recruits, firefighters, and many other groups. Recent studies are in agreement. A California EPA report dated July 2009 stated "it is unlikely that the new generation of artificial turf is itself a source of MRSA."

A Penn State University study released in January 2009 found there was no difference in survival rates of staph on natural grass and synthetic turf surfaces. In addition, it stated that synthetic turf is not a hospitable environment for microbial activity such as staph. The issue goes beyond abrasions, since athletes can get cuts on any playing field – from the most well-manicured or dirt-compacted natural grass to state-of-the-art synthetic turf fields that are regularly irrigated and cleaned.

**Q: How can I learn more about scientific studies on the health and environmental safety of synthetic turf?**

#### **PLAYER USAGE & INJURIES**

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

**Q: How does synthetic turf compare to natural grass on player injury rates?**

#### **COST, INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE & DISPOSAL**

**Q: What are the advantages of contracting with an STC member company?**

**Q: How long can a synthetic turf field be used?**

---

**Q: How does the cost of a synthetic turf field compare to a natural turf field?**

**Q: Are all synthetic turf products the same?**

**Q: Can synthetic turf hold up under heavy use?**

**Q: Does synthetic turf fade?**

**Q: Who should I consult for the installation of a synthetic turf sports field?**

**Q: Is maintenance of synthetic turf required?**

**Q: How will I know when my multi-purpose synthetic turf sports field is approaching the end of its useful life?**

**Q: What options are there for disposing of synthetic turf once it has reached the end of its useful life other than putting it in a landfill?**

---

**Q: Where do I turn for technical guidance?**

**Newsroom**

[more](#)

10/26/2016  
**Synthetic Turf Council Elects  
 New Board of Directors**

10/10/2016  
**Statement from the  
 Synthetic Turf Council on  
 CRI in Netherlands**

6/6/2016  
**EPA Moving Toward White  
 House Review of Federal  
 Synthetic Turf Plan**

**Industry**

[more](#)

**Calendar**  
 11/7/2016 » 11/10/2016  
**Georgia Recreation & Parks  
 Association (GRPA) Annual  
 Conference & Trade Show**

11/16/2016 » 11/17/2016  
**NYSTA Turf & Grounds Expo**

11/17/2016 » 11/19/2016  
**Athletic Business  
 Conference & Expo**

**New Members**

**Christopher Grootendorst**

**Martin Brothers  
 Construction**

We construct base systems  
 for synthetic turf athletic  
 fields

**Erich Ely**

**Online Surveys**

**STC Membership Survey**

**New Member Survey**



**Sign Up to Receive Newsletters** »

**About STC**

- Mission & Purpose
- Business Conduct & Ethical Standards
- Board of Directors
- Committees & Task Forces
- Strategic Alliances
- Contact Us

**Synthetic Turf**

- Benefits of Synthetic Turf
- Online Buyers' Guide
- FAQs
- Photos
- Videos
- Crumb Rubber Infill

**Newsroom**

- Industry/Member News
- E-Newsletter
- Archive
- Radio Interviews
- Press Kit
- Media Inquiry Form
- Join Our Mailing List

**Industry Calendar**

- 2016 Annual Membership Meeting
- 2016 Spring Meeting
- Wrap Up
- Future STC Meetings
- Past STC Meetings
- Photo Gallery
- Webinars

**Membership**

- Benefits of Membership
- Full Members
- Certified Members
- Affiliate Members
- Allied Organizations
- E-Membership Documents
- Certification Program
- Sponsorship Program
- Member Testimonials
- Join STC

**Members Only**

- My Profile
- Manage Profile
- E-Membership Documents
- Member Directory
- Recorded Webinars
- Meeting Presentations
- Refer a Prospective Member
- STC Idea Box

**Resource Center**

- Technical Guidelines
- Independent Research
- White Papers & Presentations
- Glossary of Terms
- Industry Links
- Videos on Testing Methods
- Concussion Management
- Funding Strategies
- Recycled Rubber Research

Membership Software :: Legal

