

Thirty Sports Clubs Shut Down

Published: October 31, 2016 - [Watersavers Turf](#)



Fake Grass & Crumb Rubber's Ongoing Problem

Fake grass makes for the perfect surface for all types of sports. Because it doesn't need to be watered or mowed, teams save money on upkeep. It also holds up to all types of weather. Games and practices aren't canceled due to rain. But over the years, some have worried about the health risks of crumb rubber infill on fake grass.

Sports clubs throughout the world have closed because they made the bad choice of using rubber infill. Fortunately, premier artificial grass suppliers like [Watersavers Turf](#) offer organic infills, lead-free and non-toxic padding, and fake grass. This makes these concerns of safety a thing of the past.

Synthetic Grass Infill Raises Concerns

Some synthetic grass infill is still made with "crumb rubber." This is recycled rubber from car and truck tires. It serves as a padding for extra safety. The problem is, there are some who worry that this type of synthetic grass infill is a health hazard.

Experts have not come to a consensus on the issue, but there are fears that it can cause cancer. While some synthetic grass infills are still made with crumb rubber, many have now moved towards safer options.

Synthetic Turf Infill Being Studied

There are many reasons for a sports venue to install a faux field. For the players, it offers extra safety in all weather. For the field owners, it cuts down on lawn care costs. That said, to this day, fears about cancer still result in some wrongly staying away from installing artificial turf. Some do not understand that it is not the plastic lawn that is of concern but it is the type of infill option.

In recent years, about 30 sports clubs have shut down in Holland. This is linked to worries about the effects of synthetic turf infill. It should be noted that all people involved in this matter are only concerned about the effects of rubber from tires.

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There would be no reason to worry if they were to replace the crumb rubber infill on their artificial fields with non-toxic organic infill or sports turf padding.

This is not the first or only time that leaders have raised this issue in Europe. A research study was done in 2006, but some believe it was too basic to reveal whether crumb rubber is truly safe. In more recent news, the European Commission began a study in early 2016. They are likely to release their findings later this year.

At this point, it's not clear what they will say on the subject. Either way, what is clear is that concerns over rubber infill's health effects have not gone away. Even if research proves that the fears are baseless, it's likely that people will still try to avoid this product.

That's one of the many reasons it makes sense for teams to switch to safer options.

The Benefits of Non-Toxic Fake Grass

Faux grass already offers extra safety to sports teams. A real grass field can be uneven, making players more likely to injure themselves. It also tends to get messy after rain.

Since, faux grass stays even all year long, and dry after rain, it is a better option for sports arenas and stadiums. Players are safer. Coaches can worry less about the team roster. Fans are less likely to see the best player miss a whole season because they took a bad fall on the field.

For youth sports, it also keeps parents very happy. They can allow their children to pursue sports, knowing they are safe. Of course, if the faux grass is covered with recycled rubber, there may be those who feel as though they've simply traded an old safety issue for a new one.

Again, the experts are still reviewing this topic, and the outcome is unknown. In the meantime, it makes sense for anyone looking to install fake turf to opt for an infill product that doesn't carry with it the same concerns. These days, there are many organic infills such as cork or ZeoFill that don't contain any crumb rubber. Non-toxic fake grass padding is another great option.

Those are the only kind of products we stock here at Watersavers Turf. We value health and safety the same way we value giving our customers best customer service. As part of our great service, we offer free artificial grass samples (1' x 1'). Stop by any of our [SF Bay Area locations](#) to get pick up your own. We also offer [free estimates](#) for your faux grass projects. To learn more about our products and services, please give us a call at 844-974-8873. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) for more newsletters! Or, download them at our website!