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April 14, 2015

Re: Synthetic turf with crumb rubber infill

As a result of recent media reports, some parents and others are questioning the preponderance of scientific evidence that concludes that there is no significant evidence that synthetic turf with crumb rubber infill poses a health risk to people of all ages.

This was the case with a K-12 school in a suburb of Montreal. A group of parents at Lower Canada College (LCC) were concerned for their children about the safety of the crumb rubber in the school's new synthetic turf playfield. To address this worry, the parents and the school agreed to test the toxicity of the crumb rubber infill against the world's most advanced limits for heavy metals in toys and materials that may be ingested by children. The lab report showed that, even against a rigorous standard for toys, the results were negligible and well below the standard. The parents' concerns were allayed, and the children are again playing on the synthetic turf play field.

Parents and others concerned with the welfare of children may be interested in the Lower Canada College lab report, as well as some frequently asked questions about crumb rubber infill. The STC has posted the studies and other information on its [website](#), which will assist you with your full examination of this issue.

There can always be one more study or one more test, but there will never be one study that definitively proves the absolute safety of anything. So we must look at the preponderance of evidence from independent, science-based studies. In the case of synthetic turf with crumb rubber infill, all the studies, including the one LCC conducted, conclude that there is no significant evidence of elevated health risks to humans of all ages from inhalation, dermal contact or ingestion. We believe you will conclude that a synthetic turf sports field with crumb rubber is an excellent option when considering a sports surface that provides for safe play and withstands constant use in all climates.

Sincerely,

Rick Doyle
President