

# Re: MVRS Athletic Fields

Ann Rosenkranz <[antigoneroose2@gmail.com](mailto:antigoneroose2@gmail.com)>

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To: Alex Elvin <[elvin@mvcommission.org](mailto:elvin@mvcommission.org)>; [planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov) <[planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov)>;

To the Martha's Vineyard Commission and Oak Bluffs Planning Board,

My name is Ann Rosenkranz. I am a retired teacher and year round resident and home owner in West Tisbury. I am a member of ICAN and on the Steering Committee of 350 Martha's Vineyard Island.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed plastic field at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. As someone who is personally concerned about keeping the environment free of toxins and as a climate activist, I contend that converting a natural grass field to a plastic one runs absolutely counter to the goals we've set to these ends on this Island. Moreover, these goals must be not only local but also statewide and national.

Now, more than ever, we acknowledge that our planetary health depends on decisions large and small. We know we must break our addiction to the fossil fuel industry turning to renewable energy and away from fossil fuel products, including plastics -petroleum by-products, which contribute not only to global warming but also to the pollution of our soil, food and water. We understand that we must invest in our soil and plant life to lower surface temperatures and to help capture as much carbon as possible. Further, we realize that we should avoid materials that add to our waste stream and pollute our sole source aquifer and instead embrace those that are regenerative and clean.

Young people on our Island have already initiated successful drives of their own to raise awareness about the hazards and reduce the use of plastic bags, bottles and straws here. I ask that you please send a clear message to our youth that, as adults, their future is our priority as it is theirs and reject the installation of plastic playing fields on Martha's Vineyard. Rejecting an artificial turf playing field would be a literal and symbolic affirmation of our concern for the health of our population, the health of our local environment and, by extension, the health of our planet. If we are truly committed to protecting our climate and our environment, we must do so on a large scale as well as on smaller projects.

Sincerely,

Ann Rosenkranz  
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West Tisbury  
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