

**From:** Virginia Coutinho  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:09 PM  
**To:** lucy@mvcommission.org  
**Cc:** Alex Elvin  
**Subject:** Strongly opposed to artificial/plastic turf.

This debate has gone on for way too long I feel. To me it's a no brainer. It does not make sense to me that an artificial/plastic field is even being considered in this day and age when the environment is in jeopardy of harm from pollution and toxins. The Vineyard should be an example of forward thinking to protect the environment.

The below excerpt from an Vineyard Conservation Society email states the opposition simply. Please vote NO for artificial/plastic field.

“ VCS opposes artificial turf for tangible environmental harms, including increased plastic waste and pollution, chemical toxicity, and climate change impacts. These issues are detailed in our [written testimony](#) to the MVC. However, there is also the less tangible matter of what this proposed development represents: a test of whether we, as an Island, are committed to sustainability or expedience. Much of the important discussion surrounding the choice between natural vs. plastic grass is technical, but on this question it can be very simple. Natural grass is sustainable and renewable; plastic grass is neither. When a plastic field wears out, it is renewed by ripping up the carpet and shipping it to Asia or the nearest landfill that will accept it. When a grass field wears out, it is renewed by sun, water, and carbon dioxide.”

Virginia (Ginny) Coutinho

Tisbury resident since 1978

Born 1944 and raised in Oak Bluffs

Protect our island please.