

BACKGROUND

1. Please describe your experience in natural and synthetic turf maintenance in New England, and what athletic facilities you currently oversee in Weston.

NATURAL TURF USAGE AND MAINTENANCE

2. Is it practical and economically feasible to grow and maintain natural sports turf in this climate?
3. What would be the major challenges to natural sports turf management on the Vineyard? (Nitrogen limitation, playing schedules, available expertise, etc.)
4. In a successful maintenance program for natural fields, what chemicals are used, and when and how are they applied (and how much)?
5. Are the fields in Weston covered for part of the year? How does that affect the growing season?
6. What are the challenges in keeping natural sports turf in use at the required times? Would spring and fall sports render the fields unusable for periods of time?
7. How would natural fields at MVRHS need to be rotated to ensure adequate maintenance and playability?
8. Do you have to contend with geese? If so, what protocols do you follow? How are goose droppings removed from the fields, and what dangers do they pose to student athletes? Is this a problem for both natural and synthetic fields?
9. What specific shortcomings do you see in the grass maintenance proposal for Field #2?
10. Given the high school sports that are played and the typical length of each season, along with the non-high school sports that use the fields, how many fields would be required to accommodate reasonable usage and enable an adequate rotation schedule to rest the fields?
11. What long-term (10+ years) maintenance do natural sports turf fields typically require?
12. What company or companies would you recommend to design and install the grass field at MVRHS?
13. What additional facilities and/or personnel might be needed? What qualifications are required?

SYNTHETIC TURF USAGE AND MAINTENANCE

14. What type of synthetic turf do you have in Weston, and how long ago was it installed? Has it needed replacement? If so, what were the impacts of that process to the surrounding facility?
15. Has the use of synthetic turf added value/relief to the natural grass maintenance program and/or the athletic program in Weston? If so, how?
16. Do you have issues with excess heat associated with synthetic turf in Weston? If so, how are those issues addressed?

COST

17. What is the approximate annual cost of maintaining high-quality natural grass fields (either by acre or number of fields)? Does this include labor? If not, how many hours of labor are involved?
18. What is the approximate annual cost of maintaining high-quality synthetic fields (either by acre or number of fields)? Does this include labor? If not, how many hours of labor are involved?
19. What is the capital cost of equipment needed to properly maintain natural fields? Synthetic fields?