

Environmental Lawsuit Settlement Funds Go to Support Testing and Outreach on Synthetic Turf

Oakland, CA - The [Public Health Trust](#) announced today that [Center for Environmental Health](#) in Oakland, CA will receive a \$207,000 grant to work with the California Attorney General and

representatives of three synthetic turf companies to carry out a lead testing and outreach program. CEH staff and volunteers will contact at least 1000 private schools and 500 public school districts, plus at least 2000 daycare centers to implement a two-tiered program of testing synthetic turf field fibers for levels



of transferable lead. CEH will also use different forms of traditional and social media to reach at least 10,000 people with the message that lead testing is available at no charge, that fields with unsafe lead levels will be replaced through funding and in-kind commitments by participating manufacturers, that turf manufactured within the past few years is unlikely to have unsafe lead levels, and that there are simple practices that can reduce or eliminate the risk of children ingesting lead while playing on any synthetic turf field.

Funding for this grant comes from [settlement](#) of a lawsuit brought under [Proposition 65](#), the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986. The lawsuit involved allegations that specified companies exposed California consumers to lead from synthetic turf without first providing consumers clear and reasonable warnings that the products contain lead. The settlement directs the Public Health Trust, a program of the Public Health Institute, to

conduct lead testing of synthetic turf and to promote good maintenance practices to ensure safe playing fields in California.

The Public Health Trust grantmaking is made possible by funds from the settlement of *People of the State of California v. Beaulieu Group, LLC et al.* San Francisco Superior Court No. 08407310 presided over by the Honorable Robert B. Freedman. Attorneys involved include Edmund G. Brown, Jr., California Attorney General; J. Matthew Rodriguez, Ken Alex, Edward Weil, and Dennis Ragen, California Attorney General's Office; Carmen Trutanich, Earl Thomas, Patricia Bilgin, Elise Ruden, and Vaughn Minassian, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office; David Paulson and Criselda Gonzalez, Solano District Attorney's Office; Mark Todzo, Lexington Law Group; Joann Williams, AstroTurf; Marie-France Nantel, Fieldturf USA, Inc.; Jeffrey Margulies, Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP; Malcolm Weiss and Catherine Allen, Hunton & Williams LLP; and Peter Farley, Beaulieu Group, LLC.

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