



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
CATALOG OF AVAILABLE RECYCLED RUBBER RESEARCH  
March 3, 2016

In early 2015, in response to increased public interest in the potential health effects of synthetic turf sports fields with recycled rubber infill, the Synthetic Turf Council began compiling a list of available studies and making them more readily accessible to the public.

Since 1990, STC has identified more than 90 technical studies and reports that have delved into various health and human safety questions relating to the use of recycled rubber as an aftermarket product, including its use as infill in synthetic turf sports fields. These studies have involved chemical engineers, toxicologists, epidemiologists, chemists, biologists and other medical professionals. They have estimated whether toxins are present at any level of concern, whether the human body can access them, and if exposure over time increases risk. The majority of the studies were conducted independently by academic institutions and government agencies.

This compelling body of knowledge (to date) includes:

- 34 considering inhalation toxicity
- 45 considering ingestion toxicity
- 27 considering dermal toxicity
- 11 considering links to cancer
- 26 conducted by universities and research institutes
- 29 conducted by city and state agencies
- 15 conducted by US and foreign federal government agencies
- 22 representing consolidated reports of previous studies

This broad-based body of scientific research from academic, independent third party, federal and state government organizations has **unequivocally failed to find any link between recycled rubber infill and cancer or any other human health risk.**

There can always be more research done, and the Synthetic Turf Council encourages and supports any future opportunities for independent, science-based research. We are confident that additional research will corroborate findings to date; namely, that recycled rubber infill does not pose an elevated human health risk to people of any age.

The Synthetic Turf Council and its members are dedicated to providing safe and durable synthetic turf products to millions of users across the country. Since 2007, an estimated 4.5 billion square feet of synthetic turf have been installed around the world, including 800 million square feet in the U.S. Recycled rubber infill is used in over 98% of the 12,000+ synthetic turf sports fields, providing superior shock absorption, traction, foot stability and safety to millions of athletes. These sports field systems also benefit sustainability efforts by: conserving water, reducing fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, and diverting millions of tires from landfills.

To learn more, a summary of findings, as well as links to all of these studies, can be found on the STC website at: <http://www.syntheticurfCouncil.org>.