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TOWN OF WAYLAND
BOARD OF HEALTH

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Board of Selectmen
Town Offices
41 Cochituate Road
Wayland, MA 01778

February 5, 2008

Dear Board of Selectmen:

Based on a presentation at our January 8, 2008 BOH meeting, the BOH believes that since artificial turf ground temperatures may be up to 50 degrees hotter than grass turf and up to 20 degrees hotter than black asphalt, the public, coaches and students, so they can take precautions, need to be alerted/educated as to this reality.

We recommend that signs alerting the public to the above facts be posted at each artificial turf field during the late Spring-early Fall seasons and that coaches be made aware of the potential danger.

This is what we suggest as to the wording:

Warning: On hot, sunny days, artificial turf can reach turf ground temperatures up to 20 degrees hotter than black asphalt surfaces and/or up to 50 degrees hotter than natural turf. Please be aware that direct contact with these surfaces by you, your children or pets when the temperature is elevated may lead to contact skin burns and/or heat prostration.

In addition, due to the increased temperature in the overall field environment during these periods, coaches, players and participants are advised to keep fluids readily available and pay close attention to staying hydrated to avoid metabolic heat stress.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Wayland Board of Health