

Turf Project

Moira C. Silva <silva.mc@hotmail.com>

Sat 1/16/2021 2:53 PM

To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>; Oak Bluffs Planning Board <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>

Hello and thank you for considering my thoughts. Best wishes to all as we navigate this challenging community issue. Moira Silva, West Tisbury

In this life we cannot always do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

Mother Teresa FOUNDER OF THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

After almost a year of living in a pandemic, I believe this more than ever. Since Covid took over, I've tried to find my own small acts like, offering free online sourdough classes and taking my kids to sing holiday carols to housebound seniors. While it's true that individuals can't stop Covid 19 or climate change, we can all still do small things, which will hopefully spiral into larger movements.

Staying true to grass is simply the next small act for us Islanders. It shows our devotion to the environment and to our children. Sadly, due to Covid, youth are now spending much more time than ever indoors and on screens. Our kids need something real to hold onto-- the smell of freshly cut grass, the satisfaction of mud-stained uniforms, a connection to nature. When our young athletes finally power down their virtual lives, let them feel the earth give under their feet, the breeze blow their hair as they squint into the sunlight and take that shot on goal. Being on real grass helps them deepen their appreciation for this beautiful planet and their commitment to care for it. The world needs us to help it heal, now more than ever. Now that's it's 2021, let's say, "No!" to any more science fiction moments-- like kids sliding around on plastic grass or peeling up enormous, used plastic carpets and then shipping them overseas. Instead let's join together to support this one small, peaceful act of saying yes to grass.