



Shellum Field

Venice Park Neighborhood, Atlantic City, NJ



The City of Atlantic City's escalating need for durable athletic fields that accommodate multiple youth sports teams, coupled with increasing maintenance, water usage costs and climatic shifts, has prompted consideration of the conversion of **Shellum Field** in the Venice Park section of Atlantic City from turfgrass to synthetic turf to balance its program needs.

The synthetic turf system proposed for **Shellum Field** will accommodate a youth athletic program and include an extensive drainage layer, a multi-layered backing system, and resilient grass blades that are infilled with a granular filler to resemble natural turf. This grass-like surface replicates lush natural grass in appearance and function and provides a consistent year-round, all-weather playing surface built to withstand extended use without downtime for recovery.

The **Shellum Field** synthetic turf will require lower maintenance cost as compared to natural grass and while it is not maintenance-free, it requires much less care than is required to keep natural grass in optimum condition for play.

The conversion of **Shellum Field** from turfgrass to a synthetic turf field may be expensive initially, but the field pays for itself over time, proving to be a highly cost-effective investment. In addition, synthetic turf maintenance costs are two to three times less than natural turf, since no mowing, irrigation or chemicals are needed. Because of its consistent availability, a synthetic turf field can also be a reliable source of rental revenue for the City.

Construction is anticipated to take 90 calendar days, weather permitting and will require complete site demolition including the removal and replacement of all accessory sports equipment and site amenities (including goal posts, fencing, dugouts, backstop, benches, trash receptacles & perimeter landscaping). The existing Venice Park School, Dolphin Clubhouse, Maud Greene Playground and sports lighting system will not be impacted by the proposed improvements.