Can you identify this sports turf problem?

**Problem:** Green turf with brown rectangular area
**Turfgrass area:** Private boarding High School
**Location:** Dedham, Massachusetts
**Grass Variety:** 50% Bluegrass/50% Ryegrass

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THE REASON WHY THIS TURF IS BROWN in a rectangular area can be traced back to a rule in turf that says “Turf never dies in a straight line.” Therefore this dead turf must be caused by people. This school’s multipurpose field is used for lacrosse, practice football, science classes’ outdoor experiments, day camp, and even as a special event/winter parking lot that gets snow plowed and salted!

Before this photo was taken, the Nobles School Day Camp decided to set up a children’s “slip n’ slide” on one of the hottest days of the year for the kids to keep cool. Unfortunately the plastic slide scorched the turf beneath it leaving this interesting pattern of fried turf on the practice field that was just recovering from wear from the spring sports season and also the car parking from the previous winter.

Photo submitted by Ryan McGillivray, a student in Turfgrass Management at UMass Amherst. Peter Thibeault CSFM is Sports Turf Manager at Noble and Greenough School in Dedham, MA where this photo was taken.

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz please send it to John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Ste #13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 call (850) 580-4026 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted will become property of SportsTurf magazine and the Sports Turf Managers Association.