

June 2021

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING AND REMEDIATION PLANNING UPDATE

Phase II Cleanup Planning and Implementation

Highlights:

- **The school continues to be safe.** After this summer's work, parking areas and most athletic fields will be available for use during the school year.
- A Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for Phase II of site cleanup was submitted to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in January 2021. A copy of [the Phase II RAP can be reviewed](#) at DEEP or on the Greenwich Public Schools website. (See text box on back of this page.)
- **A virtual public meeting to present the Phase II RAP to the public was held on** January 27, 2021. Public comments were solicited and responses provided by the Town.
- DEEP and EPA have approved the Town to proceed with remediation in the area of Field 4.
- **Phase II cleanup activities for Field 4 of the Greenwich High School property (the Site) will be performed over the 2021 summer recess and continue into Fall 2021.** This work will include the replacement of the artificial turf for Field 4.
- The remainder of cleanup activities proposed in the RAP for Field 2, Field 3, and several smaller areas located west of the school building are still under discussion between the Town, DEEP, and EPA, pending regulatory approval.

Current Status

The environmental investigation and remediation activities that began at Greenwich High School property (the Site) in July 2011 are progressing to the second phase (Phase II) of remediation under the Connecticut (CT) Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP). The Town entered the VRP in 2017, following the completion of initial interim remediation measures to ensure the school was safe for use. The Town has since completed several years of investigation and additional remedial activities. The Town continues to work with the Connecticut Department of Environment and Energy (DEEP) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reach agreement on the remainder of cleanup activities for the Site.

Remedial Action Plan for Phase II

The Town submitted a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the second phase of cleanup at the Site in January 2021. The RAP describes the planned cleanup activities to be conducted over an anticipated three-year period. The RAP focuses on protecting human health and the environment while accommodating school activities and other uses of the Site.

This second phase of cleanup focuses on Fields 2, 3, 4, and 5 and a few smaller areas located west of the school building. In general, the cleanup work is to be conducted over the summer months, while restoration and

construction of the athletic fields is planned to occur during the school year. The cleanup schedule has been sequenced to minimize the loss of use of school facilities and athletic playing fields during the project. However, access to the playing fields will be limited at times, particularly during the summer months. The cleanup plan includes:

- Excavating and disposing of approximately 31,000 tons of contaminated soil;
- Constructing an impermeable cap beneath and around Fields 3 and 4;
- Installing a new stormwater management system to prevent rainwater from contacting contaminated soil beneath Fields 3 and 4;
- Establishing clean soil caps beneath Fields 2 and 5; and
- Long-term monitoring and maintenance of the remedy.

The impermeable cap, athletic fields, Western Parking Lot, and clean soil will be used as a series of Engineered Controls to prevent human contact with deeper contaminated soils.

Cleanup Plans for Summer 2021

Following input from the public, EPA and DEEP provided approval of planned cleanup activities in the vicinity of Field 4. Work will commence shortly after the end of the school year. Work scheduled for the summer recess includes excavation and disposal of contaminated soil. During this time, the Western and Northern Parking Lots,

Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will be unavailable for use. Clean up work during the Summer 2021 will also include the excavation and disposal of contaminated soil present in a small area north of Field 7, to complete remediation initiated in 2020.

Site work during the summer recess will be performed Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 AM and ending at 6:00 PM and Saturday between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM. The Western Parking Lot and Fields 2, 5, 6, and 7 are expected to be available for use during the Fall 2021 semester. A map showing the layout of the site during the 2021 summer recess is presented below.

Safety of Community

The health and safety of students, faculty, neighbors, and the public is paramount to the Town during the performance of this work. To ensure public safety:

- Work areas will be demarcated with fencing and signage, and access to work areas will be restricted.
- A dust monitoring and control plan will be implemented when earthwork is occurring.
- Truck traffic will be directed to maintain organization and prevent queuing of trucks on Hillside Road.

- Sediment and erosion controls will be installed, inspected, and maintained routinely to protect West Brothers Brook and other natural resources.

Plans for Fall 2021 and Beyond

Work scheduled for Fall 2021 includes the construction of the impermeable cap beneath Field 4 and the construction of new artificial turf Field 4. During Fall 2021:

- Fields 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 will be open to the public; however a portion of Field 3 will be unusable because a construction barricade will be set up between Fields 3 and 4 that will limit the length of Field 3.
- The full playing surface of Field 5 will remain open; however the bullpen areas and the practice area beyond the outfield fence will be inaccessible because that area will be used for construction staging.
- The soil stockpiles currently located beyond the outfield fence of Field 5 will be used as backfill in 2021 and 2022 and restoration of that area will be performed in 2023.

While these cleanup activities are performed, the Town will continue to work with DEEP and EPA to finalize plans and obtain approval for the remaining cleanup activities at the Site.

For all information requests, please contact:
Sasha Houlihan, Greenwich Public Schools Director of Communications
203-625-7415 or sasha_houlihan@greenwich.k12.ct.us

OR, please visit our website for further information:

<https://www.greenwichschools.org/departments/facilities-rentals/building-grounds-projects/ghs-fields-remediation-project>

