

January 2022

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION UPDATE

Phase II Remediation Implementation

Highlights:

- **The school continues to be safe.** Parking areas and most athletic fields are 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.
- DEEP and EPA approved the plan for the Town to proceed with remediation in the area of Field 4 and are reviewing the remainder of the plan, which addresses remediation in Fields 2 and 3.
- **Phase II activities for Field 4 of the Greenwich High School property (the Site) commenced in June 2021 and will continue through Winter 2021-2022.** This work includes the replacement of the artificial turf for Field 4. **Field 4 and a portion of Field 3 will remain closed through Winter 2021-2022.**
- **Phase II site work will impact certain athletic field availability through 2023.** The bullpen areas and grass area outside the Field 5 outfield fence and one row of parking will remain closed for the duration of the project.
- **School facilities are otherwise open and safe for use.**

Current Status

The environmental investigation and remediation activities that began at Greenwich High School property (the Site) in July 2011 have progressed to the second phase (Phase II) of remediation under the Connecticut Voluntary Remediation Program, and remediation of the athletic fields is ongoing.

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 over the long term while accommodating school activities and other uses of the Site while cleanup is underway.

This second phase of work focuses on Fields 2, 3, 4 & 5 and a few smaller areas located west of the school building. In June 2021, the Connecticut Department of Environment and Energy (DEEP) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the remediation activities around Field 4, and the Town continues to work with the agencies to reach agreement on the remaining remediation activities for the Site. Excavation and material removal activities are primarily being conducted over the summer months, while restoration and construction of the athletic fields are being performed during the school year. The project 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 overall plan includes:

- Excavating and disposing of approximately 36,000 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 impacted 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 soils.

Field 4 Cleanup Activities

Work on Field 4 commenced in June 2021. Work during the 2021 summer recess included the successful excavation and disposal of approximately **14,000** tons of contaminated soil from beneath and adjacent to Field 4. Installation of the impermeable cap and stormwater management system beneath Field 4 began in Fall 2021. The project schedule has been affected by supply chain issues resulting from the pandemic. Lead times for the manufacture and delivery of certain materials continues to be challenging. The team is doing everything it can to manage this; however, it does mean that rebuilding Field 4 is taking longer than scheduled.

Work scheduled for Winter 2021-2022 includes the construction of new artificial turf on Field 4. Site work will continue to 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, weather permitting. A map showing the layout of the Site during Winter 2021-2022 is presented below.

During Winter 2021-2022:

- Field 4 will be closed. The goal is to complete restoration of Field 4 in time for the Spring 2022 sports season. However, the work is weather dependent and the timeline could be extended if bad weather prevails into the spring season. Aspects of field construction that are weather and temperature-dependent, and those constraints must be respected to provide the Town with a high quality field upon completion of the work.
- During Field 4 construction, Fields 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7 will be open to the public; however, a portion of Field 3 will be unusable because a construction barricade is set up between Fields 3 and 4 that limits the length of Field 3.
- The 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 is being used for construction staging.

- Trucking of materials for construction of Field 4 will occur during the school day in coordination with school activities and facilities.
- One row of parking spaces in the Western Parking Lot will remain blocked-off during construction.
- The soil stockpiles currently located beyond the outfield fence of Field 5 will be used as backfill in 2022, and restoration of the area adjacent to Field 5 will be performed in 2023.

Safety of the 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 are demarcated with fencing and signage, and access to work areas is restricted.
- Truck traffic will continue to be carefully managed throughout the project to prevent queuing of trucks on Hillside Road and avoid the start and end of the school day.
- Sediment and erosion controls are installed and will be inspected and maintained routinely to protect West Brothers Brook and other natural resources.

For all information requests, please contact:
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OR, please visit our website for further information:
<https://www.greenwickschools.org/departments/facilities-rentals/building-grounds-projects/ghs-fields-remediation-project>

