

July 2022

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING AND REMEDIATION UPDATE

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 remediation 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 pg. 2.)
- **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 areas of Fields 3 and 4.
- Field 4 cleanup and renovation were completed in 2021-2022, following Phase I remediation, which included cleanup of Field 6 and 7 in 2020.
- **Field 3 cleanup will be performed over the 2022 summer recess and continue into 2022-2023 school year.** This work will include the replacement of the artificial turf for Field 3.
- The details of remaining cleanup activities planned for Field 2 and Field 5 and several smaller areas located west of the school building are still being discussed by the Town, DEEP, and EPA and are 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 through cleanup under the Connecticut Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) and remediation and renovation 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. Phase I addressed cleanup of Fields 6 and 7 and was completed in 2020. The RAP describes the planned cleanup activities to be conducted over a three-year period, which began last year. The RAP focuses on protecting human health and the environment over the long-term while accommodating school activities and other uses of the Site.

This second phase of cleanup encompasses Fields 2, 3, 4, and 5 and a few smaller areas located west of the school building. In general, the cleanup work is being 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 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 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 soils.

Field 4 Cleanup Activities

Cleanup work beneath Field 4 was completed in Fall 2021 and was followed by artificial turf field construction performed through the Winter and early Spring 2022. On April 8, 2022, Field 4 opened for use during the Spring 2022 season. The temporary barrier set up between Fields 3 and 4 will remain in place until the completion of Field 3 construction in Spring 2023.

Cleanup Plans for Summer 2022

Work on Field 3 began this June. Work during the 2022 summer recess will include the excavation and disposal of contaminated soil from beneath and adjacent to Field 3. Installation of the impermeable cap and stormwater management system beneath Field 3, replacement of the Field 3 playing field, and construction of a new spectator area will begin in Fall 2022. Starting in June 2022, site work 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, weather permitting.

During Summer 2022, Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 and the Western and Northern parking lots will be unavailable for use. The goal is to complete restoration of Field 3 in time for the Spring 2023 sports season. However, the work is weather dependent, and bad weather may impact the project timeline. Aspects of field construction 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. A map showing the layout of the Site during Summer 2022 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 2022 and Beyond

Work scheduled for Fall 2022 includes the construction of the impermeable cap beneath Field 3 and the construction of new artificial turf Field 3. During Fall 2022:

- Fields 2, 4 and 5 will be open to the public; however a portion of Field 4 will be unusable because a construction barricade will be set up between Fields 3 and 4 that will limit the length of Field 4.
- The full playing surface of Field 5 is expected to 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.
- Clean soil from the soil stockpiles currently located beyond the outfield fence of Field 5 will be used as backfill in 2022 and 2023, 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:
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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>

