August 2024

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION UPDATE

Highlights:

- The school continues to be safe.
- Additional remediation work in the vicinity of Field 5 and areas in the Western Parking Lot commenced in July 2024.
- Restoration of Field 2, the staging area in Field 5 and a small area in the parking lot near the pool commenced in July and August 2024 and will continue into Fall 2024.
- Field 2 and the staging area in Field 5 will remain unavailable for use through Fall 2024. Fields 3 and 4 will be inaccessible during the summer but will be accessible in Fall 2024. Fields 6 and 7 will remain accessible throughout the summer and fall.
- Weather permitting, Field 2 is expected to be available for use in Spring 2025.
- Remaining remediation along the back of the school building including areas adjacent to the Performing Arts Center is planned for Summer 2025.

Current Status

The environmental investigation and remediation activities at the Greenwich High School property are progressing through cleanup under the Connecticut Voluntary Remediation Program.

Completed Remediation Activities

Over the past four years, the Town has conducted remediation at the high school in conjunction with the construction of new athletic fields. This work has been phased to perform most of the cleanup work over the summer recess with limited remediation and some construction of fields occurring during the school year. The cleanup schedule has been sequenced to minimize the loss of use of school facilities and athletic fields during the project. However, access to the fields will continue to be limited at times. Cleanup activities have included:

- Excavating and disposing of over 50,000 tons of contaminated soil;
- Constructing an impermeable cap and stormwater management system beneath Fields 3 and 4; and
- Establishing clean soil caps beneath Fields 2, 5, 6, and 7, the Western Parking Lot, and areas around the fields.

Fields 6 & 7 Cleanup & Restoration Activities

Cleanup work around Fields 6 & 7 was performed in Summer 2020. This work involved the excavation and disposal of 600 tons of contaminated soil and artificial turf field construction. Fields 6 & 7 re-opened for use during the 2020-2021 school year. A small area north of Field 7 was completed during Summer 2023.

Field 4 Cleanup & Restoration Activities

Cleanup work beneath Field 4 was completed in Fall 2021 and involved the excavation and disposal of 14,250 tons of contaminated soil and replacement of the Field 4 playing field. Field 4 re-opened for use in April 2022.

Field 3 Cleanup & Restoration Activities

Work on Field 3 began in June 2022 and included the excavation and disposal of 23,000 tons of contaminated soil, replacement of the Field 3 playing field, and construction of a new spectator area. Field 3 re-opened for use in May 2023.

Field 2 and 5 Cleanup & Restoration Activities

Work on Fields 2 and 5 began in June 2023 and extended into Fall semester. It included the excavation and disposal of approximately 15,800 tons of contaminated soil from beneath and adjacent to Fields 2 and 5, and excavation in the Western Parking lot and fenced physical plant equipment area. Placement of clean backfill and topsoil was conducted in late Summer and Fall 2023. Restoration of Field 5 was performed November 2023. Field 5 reopened for use in March 2024. Restoration of the contractor staging area in Field 5 is underway and is planned to be completed during Fall 2024.

Remediation of Field 2 was completed in November 2023, excavations were backfilled with clean material and the area was stabilized for Winter-Spring 2024-2025.

Restoration of Field 2 recommenced in July 2024 and will consist of placement of topsoil, grading and installation of natural grass sod. Field 2 will remain closed through Summer and Fall 2024 for restoration activities so that, weather permitting, Field 2 will be ready for play in Spring 2025.

Cleanup Plans for Summer 2024 and Beyond

Work for Summer 2024 will include remaining work on Fields 2 and the Field 5 staging area, as well as a small area in the Western Parking Lot near the pool entrance. Restoration of these areas is expected to extend into the school year. A map showing the layout of the Site during Summer 2024 is presented below.

Remediation work adjacent to the Performing Arts Center building is planned for Summer 2025 to accommodate regulatory approval timing and preparation given the complexity of the work.

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 have been demarcated with fencing and signage, and access to work areas will be restricted.
- A dust monitoring and control plan is implemented when earthwork is occurring.
- Truck traffic will continue to be limited during school operational hours and will be directed to avoid busy times at the beginning and end of the school day.
- Sediment and erosion controls are installed and are inspected and maintained routinely to protect West Brothers Brook and other natural resources.

