

**TOWN OF GREENWICH
GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Greenwich, CT**

**Western Middle School Fields Update
Site Sampling and Testing Resumes**

For Immediate Release: Greenwich, CT - Friday, March 24, 2017 – The Western Middle School (WMS) fields remain closed as the Town’s environmental consultant (Langan) resumes soil sampling following consultation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Until recently, soil sampling activities at the site were being performed through consultation with the CT Department of Public Health (CTDPH) and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP), and in accordance with a CTDEEP-approved PCB Soil Delineation Work Plan. However, given the discovery of PCBs in soil at concentrations above the federal Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)¹ threshold of 50 mg/kg, Greenwich Public Schools and Langan were required to consult with USEPA to address federal PCB regulations. As requested by USEPA, additional soil sampling will be completed at WMS to further evaluate the presence and extent of PCB-impacted soil. The proposed scope of the next round of sampling is being drafted and will likely include the advancement of approximately 90 additional soil borings.

The additional sampling requested by USEPA will be an iterative process and, at this time, the schedule for completion of PCB sampling is contingent on the results of sampling and analyses not yet conducted. Once the sampling and testing has been completed and the site has been delineated to the satisfaction of the USEPA and CTDEEP, Langan will develop a Remedial Action Plan to include:

- Development and execution of action plans for the protection of students, faculty, on-site workers, community, and the environment during soil disturbance activities;
- Excavation and off-site disposal of impacted soils;
- Placement of a highly visible demarcation barrier (e.g. orange snow fencing) between residual site material and imported backfill material; and
- Backfilling of remedial excavation areas to grade with imported certified clean fill.

We will continue to provide updates to the community as new results and information become available.

Western Middle School Fields Project Background

Environmental testing conducted over the summer of 2016 on soil samples from the Western Middle School (WMS) fields indicated levels of constituents that exceeded the CT-DEEP residential direct exposure criteria in some areas. Results of the initial testing did not detect concentrations of the constituents exceeding Federal or State regulatory thresholds requiring immediate reporting or action. However, based on these results, and after initial consultation with the Town and State Departments of Public Health, the Western Middle School fields were closed as a precautionary measure. Additional soil testing is underway in order to determine the extent of the constituents present in the fields and to develop a remedial action plan.

¹ The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) of 1976 provides EPA with authority to require reporting, record-keeping and testing requirements, and restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures. TSCA addresses the production, importation, use, and disposal of specific chemicals, including PCBs.

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For More Information:

Visit the GPS website at www.greenwickschools.org/wmsfields.

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About Langan: www.langan.com

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