

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Greenwich, CT

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For Immediate Release

New Lebanon School Environmental Site Assessment – Supplemental Report
Additional Soil Sample Analysis Conducted for Baseball Field Adjacent to NLS

Previous Investigation

A Limited Phase II Environmental Site Investigation was conducted for the New Lebanon School. This Investigation included the collection of three soil samples from the adjacent baseball field. Two of the three samples contained arsenic at levels above the Residential Direct Exposure Criteria established by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP). As a result of this, the Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) commissioned a Supplemental Limited Phase II to further investigate the baseball field adjacent to New Lebanon School.

Soil Investigation and Results

Twenty soil borings were advanced and a total of twenty soil samples were collected in a grid-like pattern across the field. The soil samples were collected at a depth of 0-1' below ground surface. Five samples, of the 20 collected, contained arsenic at levels above the Residential Direct Exposure Criteria (RDEC).

Conclusions

GPS is working in concert with The Town of Greenwich Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Public Works as well as the Town of Greenwich Health Department to evaluate the issues at the Site. As a precautionary measure and at the direction of the Greenwich Health Department in consultation with the Town's environmental consultant, the areas of the Site containing arsenic levels above the RDEC will be fenced off today. During the next month, we will be performing additional analysis of the soils present at the Site in order to better define the areas that exceed the Residential Direct Exposure Criteria and identify the steps necessary to fully open the field to the public. We will have results by June 1, 2015 and will be able to discuss the next steps at that time.

To view the Supplemental Phase II Environmental Site Assessment at the Havemeyer Building, 290 Greenwich Ave., please contact Kim Eves at Kim_Eves@greenwich.k12.ct.us, for an appointment.

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For health and safety related questions please contact:

Greenwich Health Department:
Michael Long, Director of Environmental Service
mlong@greenwichct.org or 203-987-1001

Connecticut Department of Health:
860-509-8000 or visit:
http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3115&q=387254&dphNav_GID=1601

ATSDR Fact Sheet on Arsenic:
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts2.pdf>

New Lebanon School Building Project Background

Greenwich Public Schools is proposing a long-term, multifaceted solution for accelerating achievement and addressing the achievement gap, racial imbalance, and facility utilization difficulties as presented in the 2014 State approved Racial Balance Plan. The proposed New Lebanon Elementary School will be built to attract students from the entire town who are interested in an International Baccalaureate (IB) education. The facility must be sized to accept the larger enrollment from the catchment area, add space for magnet students, and add classrooms to restore the pre-kindergarten program.

New Lebanon Elementary School was originally built in 1956. Four classrooms were added in 1992. The pre-kindergarten program was moved out of the school for the 2012/13 school year and the kindergarten program moved out in the 2014/15 school year to address overcrowding and relieve strain on the facility. Many of the classrooms are sized correctly, but all the special classrooms, gym, administration, and small group learning rooms are undersized. The smaller than average cafeteria and kitchen impact the school schedule.

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