

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation, Region One**

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**ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE REMEDIATION
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU COUNTY
PUBLIC INFORMATION SHEET
November 2007**

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in conjunction with the New York State Department of Health (DOH) is overseeing the investigation and remediation of the new Roosevelt Middle School site. The New York State Department of Education (SED) and the Roosevelt School District (RSD) are jointly involved in the investigation and remediation of the site. The DEC is pleased to report that the site is almost completely remediated. Almost all of the remaining remedial tasks involve site restoration activities.

This public information sheet is part of a series of fact sheets that are intended to notify the public of the latest developments at this site. This public information sheet precedes the third public meeting for this site that is planned for December 11, 2007. A meeting notice has been mailed to the public contact list separately.

SITE BACKGROUND

The site is located at 335 East Clinton Avenue in Roosevelt in the Town of Hempstead in Nassau County. Residential properties are located to the west and south, Roosevelt High School is located to the northwest, and the Town of Hempstead Department of Public Works (TOHDPW) Roosevelt highway yard is located to the east. Figure 1 shows the location of the new school building and the surrounding properties. Smith Pond, a freshwater pond, is located approximately 1,600 feet to the south-southeast. Groundwater flows toward the south-southeast.

The new Roosevelt Middle School site includes a 10.74-acre parcel (lots 35 and 327) of land. This site formerly consisted of two buildings that were used by the Former Nassau County Mosquito Control Unit (FNCMCU) from around 1953 until 2005. The county used the buildings for vehicle maintenance, refueling, and mixing pesticides.

Prior investigations in 1994, 2003 and 2004 provided preliminary estimates of the site-related contamination. Soil excavations and underground storage tank removals were performed before the start of school construction to address the contamination identified in these investigations.

During excavation in February 2006 to construct the foundation, a large amount of buried debris was discovered in the northern portion of the new school. Some of this debris was contaminated with pesticides. Consequently, a Remedial Work Plan (RWP) was developed to address this newly discovered contamination. The remediation of the buried debris has been conducted in conjunction with the construction of the new school. Under the RWP, all contaminated soils above the soil cleanup objectives (SCOs) would be excavated and disposed at approved off-site disposal locations. Excavated soils that did not contain contaminants above the SCOs could be reused at the site after the debris had been sifted from the soil as long as the soil was only used as sub-surface fill and was covered by an 18-inch soil cap of clean fill, building slab, or pavement.

The primary contaminants detected have been 4, 4'-DDT, related breakdown products 4, 4'-DDD, and 4, 4'-DDE, dieldrin, and chlordane. This pesticide contamination has limited mobility. As a result, impacts to the underlying groundwater are minimal.

REMEDICATION STRATEGY

DEC has used a three-prong strategy to remediate the Roosevelt Middle School site: **The first action** included investigating the extent to which soil on the school property was contaminated with pesticides and cleaning it up (remediating it) to meet SCOs for residential use (as provided in 6 NYCRR Part 375-6.8 (b)). The cleanup objectives also protect the quality of the groundwater. The SCOs in parts per million (ppm) of site related contaminants are:

Contaminant	4, 4'-DDT	4, 4'-DDD	4, 4'-DDE	dieldrin	chlordane (alpha)
SCO	1.7	2.6	1.8	0.039	0.91

The second action included sampling the soil on properties off the middle school site, including adjacent yards, and analyzing these samples for pesticides found on site to determine whether contaminants or contaminated soil have migrated from the school property. **The third action** included sampling groundwater to determine if prior disposal of pesticide wastes on the site has adversely affected groundwater quality. If so, the extent of groundwater contamination would be determined and remediated, as necessary.

SED conducted the investigation and remediation of the on-site soil contamination under the oversight of DEC’s Division of Environmental Remediation (DER). DER carried out the investigation of soil and groundwater off-site.

PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

Soil and debris with contaminant levels above the soil cleanup objectives have been excavated and disposed at off-site facilities. Soils with contaminant levels below SCOs will be covered with either paved areas such as parking lots or a minimum 18 inches of clean soil for field areas. The school **will not open** until the property has been cleaned up to the satisfaction of DEC and DOH in order to protect the health of students, faculty and staff of the school. Based upon test results to date, the site has been cleaned up to levels below SCOs for residential use. Final decision is reserved until all data are reviewed in the final closeout report.

DDT, DDD, DDE, dieldrin and chlordane pesticides have limited mobility in soil and groundwater. The available groundwater data indicates that the site-related groundwater contamination is very limited. There are no known private wells located in the vicinity of the site that could be impacted by contamination at the site. A private well survey conducted by DEC at 43 homes located within one-eighth of a mile in the direction of groundwater flow from the site did not identify any active private wells. (One property owner has a private well that is reportedly not being used.) Anyone using a private well located within one-quarter mile to the south or south-southeast of the site, is encouraged to contact DEC or DOH to determine if the water quality in your well should be evaluated.

A 501- foot deep public supply well is located approximately 3,000 feet to the south of the site and is considered to be downgradient of the site. Due to the depth and distance of this well from the site, the limited site-related groundwater contamination does not present a threat to this well. Drinking water supplied by public water sources is routinely monitored and treated, if necessary, to ensure that it complies with federal and state drinking water standards.

CURRENT STATUS OF INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIATION

Contractors and consultants working for the school district have completed the following tasks since April 2007:

- All areas with buried debris have been identified, excavated and processed. Almost all of these soil excavations have already been backfilled, except for the placement of a surface soil cap, where necessary.
- During the excavation of the buried debris, a dry well that was used by the FNMCU as part of their stormwater drainage system was found. As noted in the April 2007 fact sheet and May 2007 public meeting, this dry well was contaminated with significant concentrations of pesticides. It was found near the eastern property border at a location to the north of the new school building. This discovery prompted a complete investigation of the former stormwater drainage system. The drainage system consisted of two separate systems identified as the eastern and the western/southern drainage systems, which were investigated and remediated separately.
- All of the piping and drainage structures have been removed from the eastern drainage system and essentially all related soil contamination on school property has been excavated. There is an inconsequential quantity of residual soil contamination that remains on the adjacent TOHDPW property.
- A vault found toward the northern end of the north-south drainage pipe for the western/southern drainage system and soil in close proximity to this structure have been removed due to some slight pesticide contamination. The rest of this portion of the drainage system did not require remediation.
- An unpaved area to the east of the new school building that did not contain buried debris was sampled on a grid due to its close proximity to the former pesticides mixing area. No soil contamination was identified in this area.

- The formerly heavily wooded area in the rear (north) of the site that was used during remediation to stockpile contaminated soils has been scraped down to the original grade. The results of surface sampling on a 60' by 60' sampling grid indicated that all contaminant concentrations were below the residential soil cleanup objectives in all samples collected. Surface samples could not be collected from two small sections of the stockpile staging area due to temporary equipment storage at these locations. Sampling will be conducted at these locations after the equipment are moved.
- In response to the public concerns in the last public meeting about potential migration of contaminants to the nearby athletic fields, five surface soil samples were collected directly at the athletic fields. None of these samples detected any pesticides above the residential soil cleanup objectives.
- A groundwater sample was collected along the southern property border to evaluate the groundwater quality in the vicinity of the former sanitary system for the FNCMCU. Very low concentrations of chlordane and dieldrin were detected slightly above their applicable groundwater standards. This groundwater contamination is minimal.

To evaluate potential off-site impacts from the site, the DEC performed the following:

- In June 2007, two additional surface soil samples were collected at adjacent residential properties to supplement the 14 surface soil samples that were collected at adjacent properties in May 2007. Neither sample detected any DDT, DDD nor DDE above the residential cleanup objectives.
- In September 2007, a private well survey was conducted at 43 properties that are located hydraulically downgradient of the site to determine if there were any private wells in use in this area. All people who responded to the survey indicated that they were connected to the public water supply and that they did not have an active private well on their property.
- On October 2, 2007, groundwater samples were collected from three off-site monitoring wells at the adjacent TOHDPW property. These wells are located hydraulically downgradient of the pesticide contamination found in the eastern drainage system. No pesticides were detected in any of these samples.

NEXT STEPS

- I. Site restoration activities will continue. This work will include the placement of 18 inches of clean soil or pavement over the soil that was re-used at the site as sub-surface fill. All of the re-used soil had been sampled and did not contain any contaminants above the residential cleanup goals. Site restoration activities are scheduled for completion by March/April 2008.
- II. The sub-slab depressurization system placed under the new school building to prevent potential vapor intrusion into the new school building will be sampled starting at the end of 2007 to determine if fans should be added to the system. Since all soils above the

cleanup objectives were excavated, it is not expected that the optional fans will be necessary.

- III. The middle school classroom wing (Section B) is scheduled for completion by December 2007. The remainder of the building is scheduled for completion in April 2008.
- IV. Sub-slab and indoor air will be tested in the classroom wing in March/April 2008 and throughout the entire school building in summer 2008 to assure that indoor air quality meets DOH requirements.
- V. The school district's consultants will prepare a Final Engineering Report (FER) that details all of the remedial work that has been performed. After review and approval of the FER by DEC, this report will be placed into the document repositories listed at the end of this information sheet.
- VI. When the FER is available, another public meeting will be held to discuss the report.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

DEC has prepared a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that describes how the state agencies involved with this project will provide information to and communicate with the public. DEC has also established repositories, locations where the CPP and other documents related to this project will be kept so the public can read them. The CPP and other site related documents have been placed in the document repositories. DEC, DOH and SED conducted public meetings on January 18, 2007 and May 23, 2007. Another public meeting has been scheduled for December 11, 2007. A meeting invitation notice has been mailed to an extensive public contact list that has been developed for this site. Fact sheets, such as this one, have been developed prior to each public meeting. Written responses to public comments received during the January and May 2007 public meetings have been developed and are available on DEC's public web site at Environmental Remediation Project Information for Region 1 under Chemical & Pollution Control, Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields. The responses to the comments received during the May 2007 public meeting will also be available at the December 2007 meeting. The last page of this fact sheet lists the names and telephone numbers of DEC, DOH, SED and RSD staff who can provide information and answer questions, and contains the locations of the document repositories.

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE REMEDIATION TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU COUNTY

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

For questions on Investigation and Remediation of
Roosevelt Middle School and off-site properties,
please contact:

Robert Stewart, Project Manager
Stony Brook Office
Phone: 631-444-0244

Walter Parish, P.E., Regional Hazardous Waste
Remediation Engineer, Stony Brook Office
Phone: 631-444-0241

William Fonda, Citizen Participation Specialist
Stony Brook Office
Phone: 631-444-0350

Guy Bobersky, P.E., Section Chief
Albany Office
Phone: 518-402-9621

Chittibabu Vasudevan, Ph.D., P.E.,
Director, Remedial Bureau A, Albany Office
Phone: 518-402-9625

For questions about solid waste or transfer stations or
hazardous substances storage, disposal or treatment:

Syed Rahman, P.E., Regional Solid Waste Engineer,
Stony Brook Office
Phone: 631-444-0375

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

For site-related health concerns:

Jacquelyn Nealon, Public Health Specialist III
Troy Office
Phone: 518-402-7880 or
1-800-458-1158, extension 27880

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

For questions on the Construction of Roosevelt
Middle School, or School District Budget Issues or
other related topics, please contact:

Carl Thurnau, P.E.
Director, Office of Facilities Planning
Phone: 518-474-3906

Diana Hinchcliff
Director, Office of Governmental Relations
Phone: 518-486-5644

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT

For questions on the Construction of Roosevelt
Middle School, dust, noise, truck traffic or other
construction related issues, please contact:

James O'Beirne
School District's Representative
Phone: 516-241-7995

Raymond Jackson
On-Site Construction Manager
Phone: 516-868-0828

DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Places where people can go to familiarize themselves
with the public documents pertaining to this site:

Roosevelt Central Administration
240 Denton Place, Roosevelt, NY 11657
Phone: 516-345-7200
Hours: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday to Friday

Roosevelt Library
27 West Fulton Avenue, Roosevelt, NY 11550
Phone: 516-378-0222
Hours: M & W - 12 pm - 8 pm, T & Th - 9 am - 8 pm,
Fri. & Sat. - 9 am - 5 pm

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Region One Headquarters,
Hazardous Waste Remediation Unit,
SUNY Campus, 50 Circle Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409
Phone: 631-444-0244
Hours: Monday to Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

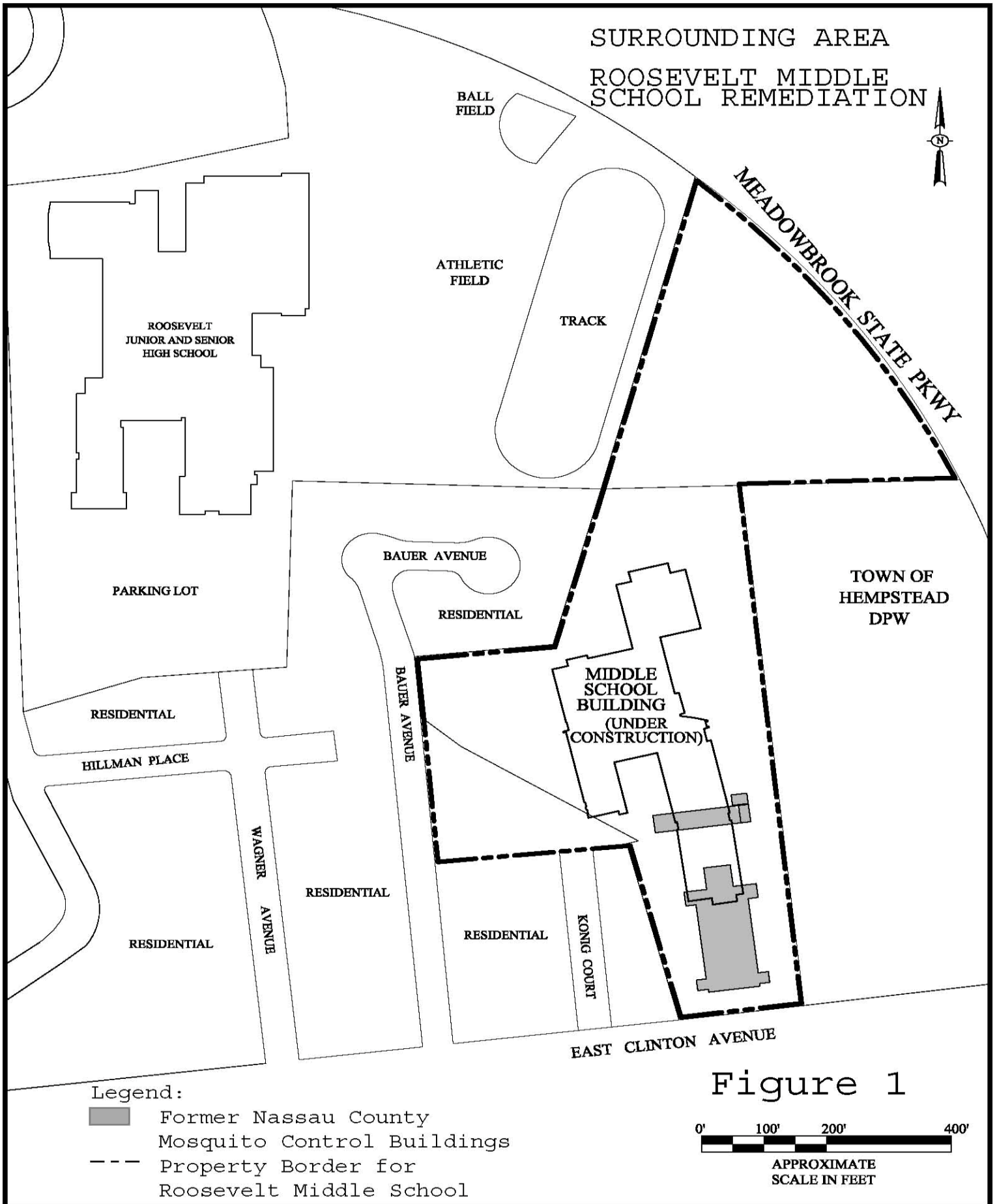


Figure 1