

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GASOLINE TANKER ROLLOVER AND PRODUCT RELEASE UPDATE

The cleanup efforts resulting from a gasoline tanker rollover and release of 8200 gallons of gasoline at 97 Greenwoods Road East on Saturday morning continue in earnest.

Day 4 shows heavy activity by the CT DEEP, Verdantas Environmental, and Environmental Services, Inc. at all 3 sites including Greenwoods Road East, Maple Avenue/Pettibone Lane, and the brook at the 5-way intersection of Mills Way and Emerson Street.

Vacuum trucks continue to work around the clock cleaning the outflow of the brook as well as several catch basins along Maple Avenue.

Soil and air sampling continues to show varying levels of contamination at all sites and remediation continues by excavating soil, vacuuming product and removing it from the site.

Traffic control and detours around Norfolk were made safer by the presence of the State of CT Department of Motor Vehicles Truck Squad who had 4 personnel in the area stopping, questioning and preventing trucks from entering the local detours. They will continue to have a presence in and around town throughout the rest of the week.

Working with the CT DMV, the State of CT DOT bolstered their road signage in Norfolk and Winsted making it more clear to drivers on how to get around and preventing local traffic jams and making the roads safer for Norfolk citizens.

The town's Department of Public Works worked to reinstall speed signs on Laurel Way as well as refueling the light towers. They also assisted with moving the large variable message signs seen scattered around town.

The City of Torrington and the Torrington Fire Department continue to support the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department by supplying a crew for standby with the regional foam trailer on Route 44. Reimbursement for their time and equipment will be provided by the insurance company of the trucking company that was involved.

The National Guard Civil Support Team returned to Norfolk to deploy air monitors at various locations around Maple Avenue to ensure that air quality was safe throughout the day for voters coming into the area.

Botelle Elementary School continues to be in close contact with the emergency operations center and has been deemed safe throughout the incident. There are no expected changes to the school schedule for this week. However, bus routes for Botelle and Northwestern Regional 7 may have to be adjusted on a daily basis for the area around Maple Avenue, Emerson Street, and Route 44.

The CT West Incident Management Team has sent financial and planning specialists to assist with documentation in the emergency operations center at the Town Hall.

Much of today's planning meeting focused on reopening Route 44 and the impending heavy rain expected for Friday and the weekend. Conversations with officials at the highest levels of the State continue to be very valuable with the First Selectman and emergency managers.

By Wednesday afternoon, we hope to have some answers to many of your questions including the reopening of Route 44, activity on Maple Avenue, and the ultimate cleanup of all contaminated material.

Accessibility issues to Maple Avenue and the Town Hall continue to be minimal and voting is continuing in earnest.

End