

Veterans Field in Edgewater closed again by tainted soil

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[EDGEWATER](#) — The firm responsible for overseeing the remediation of Veterans Field, abruptly closed the park on Oct. 4 after a load of clean fill being used to replace contaminated soil failed to pass a quality test.

"Until they can decide [what the] contaminants [are], which parts of the field are contaminated or if they're contaminated, they're shutting the field down," said Mayor James Delaney at a mayor and council work session on Oct. 7. "Until they notify us any different, that's where we stand right now."

[Edgewater](#) officials are scheduled to meet with TERMS Environmental Consulting Inc., and Waterside Construction, the contractor for the project, on Oct. 10 to assess the situation and figure out how best to proceed, said Borough Administrator Greg Franz.

All construction work on Veterans Field, which is in the midst of a \$9.7 million effort to remove historic fill and add additional athletic fields and amenities, came to a halt as a precaution until further testing could be done, said Franz.

TERMS is in the process of gathering the necessary soil samples and has identified the spot where the "bad" soil was dumped on the 27.6-acre field, he said. All material trucked into the premises must undergo testing by TERMS.

The shutdown prompted questioning by Waterside Construction, whose attorney sent the borough a letter expressing "some concerns with how TERMS has handled the situation," said Delaney.

The details of the letter were not immediately available but Delaney said the construction company offered reassurance that it is "willing to take care of the situation at the field 100 percent" no matter how it unfolds.

"They're notifying us that whatever has to be done, will be done and as promptly and efficiently as possible," he said. "Hopefully we'll be ready for the [reopening in] spring of next year."

TERMS and Waterside Construction could not be reached for comment by press time.

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