

FORMER GRUMMAN SETTLING PONDS, BETHPAGE COMMUNITY PARK CLEANUP



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

SEPTEMBER 2024

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health (DOH) are working to protect the public health and environment of the towns of Oyster Bay and Hempstead as part of the State's comprehensive investigation and cleanup of the Northrop Grumman groundwater plume. To advance the cleanup, DEC and DOH investigated the source of contamination, selected a comprehensive cleanup plan, and are now closely overseeing the implementation of remedial actions by the parties responsible for the contamination, Northrop Grumman and the U.S. Navy.

New York State is committed to keeping the community informed about the cleanup. The timeline below illustrates the current cleanup timeline at the former Grumman Settling Ponds site at the present-day Bethpage Community Park.

Addressing TCE and other contamination in groundwater and sub-surface soil

December 2017: New York State announces new analysis shows full containment of the Navy Grumman plume is achievable.

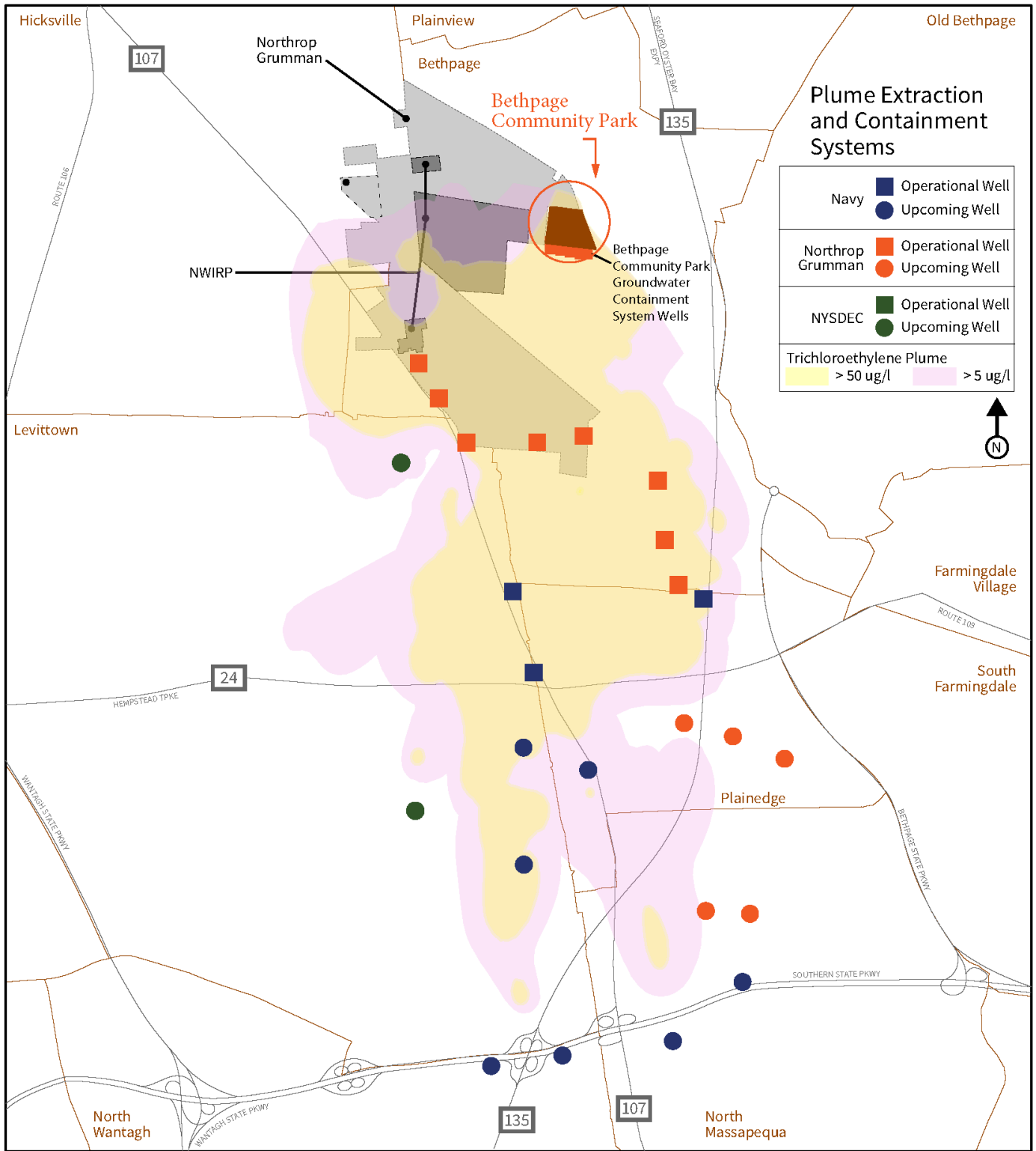
December 2018-2019: New York worked with the responsible parties, the U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman, to secure a commitment to the full containment of the plume.

December 2019: New York State issued an Amended Record of Decision to expedite a comprehensive effort to fully contain the large plume of contamination originating from the former Northrop Grumman Bethpage Facility and Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) sites in the town of Oyster Bay. The plume (See Map 1) extends approximately 4.3 miles south toward the Southern State Parkway and to depths of 900 feet beneath the ground surface. At its widest point, the plume is approximately 2.1 miles wide. The Amended Record of Decision secures commitment from Northrop Grumman and U.S. Navy to advance full containment of the Northrop Grumman plume, including installation of the thermal wells to support the remedy.

August 2022: DEC and Northrop Grumman finalized the Consent Decree to install additional extraction wells, construct and operate treatment plants, and return the treated water to the aquifer system, as well as undertake additional work within the plume and provide compensation to New York State and affected water districts in the form of Natural Resource Damages.

August 2020 to May 2022: Northrop Grumman implements the Phase 1 cleanup of the former settling ponds and sludge drying beds at the Bethpage Community Park (See Map 2). The cleanup uses thermal wells to heat the ground and capture contaminants that include trichloroethylene (TCE) approximately 35 to 45 feet beneath the ground surface in the soil and groundwater at the park. A total of 1,500 pounds of contamination was removed.

Summer 2024: Northrop Grumman completes the drilling of more than 380 thermal heating wells to heat the ground and capture contamination in another section of the park (referred to as the Phase 2 thermal remedy) within and adjacent to the former ballfield area.

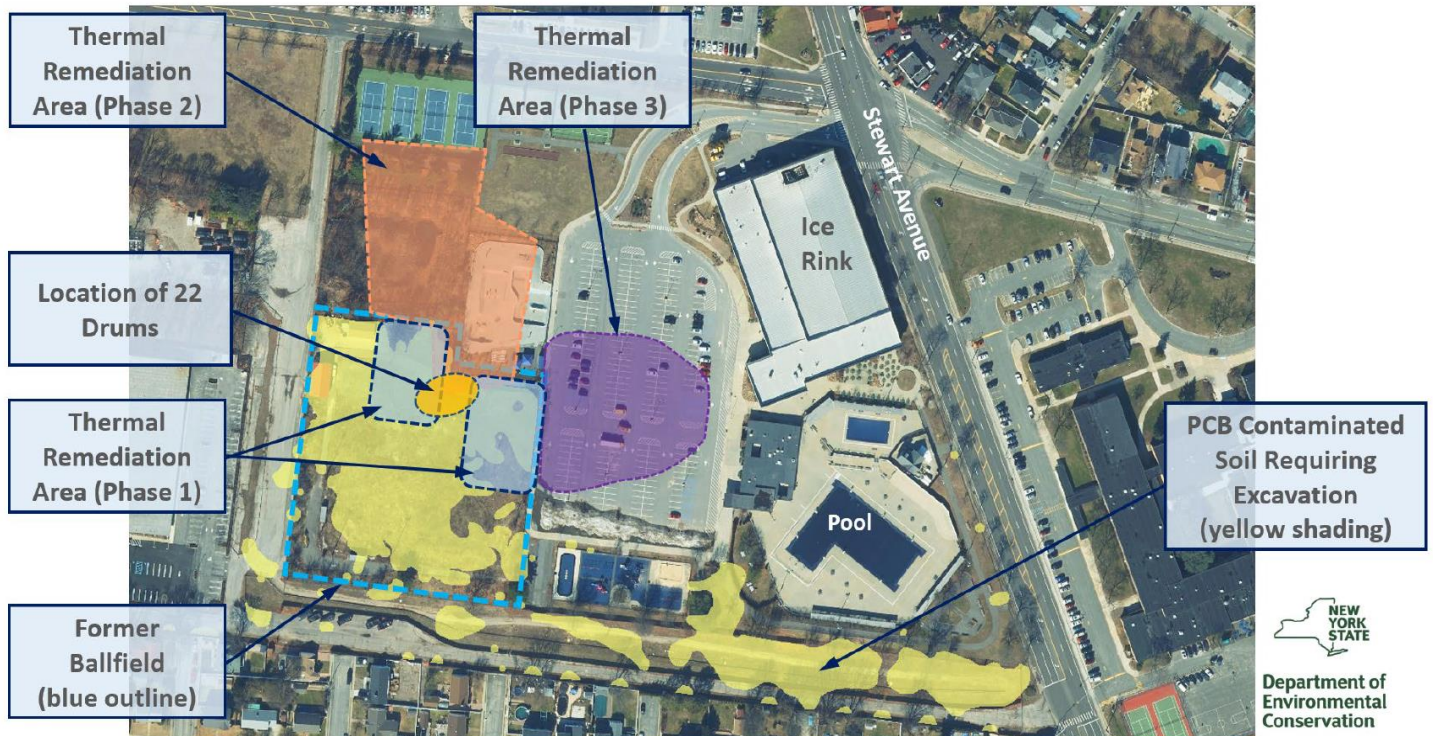


Map 1: Navy Grumman Groundwater Plume

September 2024: Northrop Grumman’s Phase 2 thermal treatment system becomes operational and begins to remove contaminants from the park.

December 2025: The Phase 2 system is expected to complete the contaminant removal. Decommissioning of the thermal treatment equipment in this area of the park will begin after testing confirms the system is effective at addressing the contamination and meeting New York State’s cleanup standards.

Summer/Fall 2027: Phase 3 of the thermal treatment system is expected to begin mobilization. Once operational and complete, the system will operate for approximately 6 months.



Map 2: Former Grumman Settling Ponds at Bethpage Community Park

Addressing PCB and metals contamination in near-surface soil at Bethpage Community Park

Summer 2024: Grumman implemented an electromagnetics (EM) and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) investigation to fully identify any additional drums or other materials buried in approximately 12 acres of the park.

October-November 2024: Grumman will implement additional test pit excavations to ensure all materials discovered by the radar are fully investigated and removed as necessary.

Fall 2024: The town of Oyster Bay and Northrop Grumman engage in discussions to seek to achieve an agreement to implement the excavation of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and metals contaminated soil and any additional data needed to complete the cleanup assessment, known as the data gap analysis.

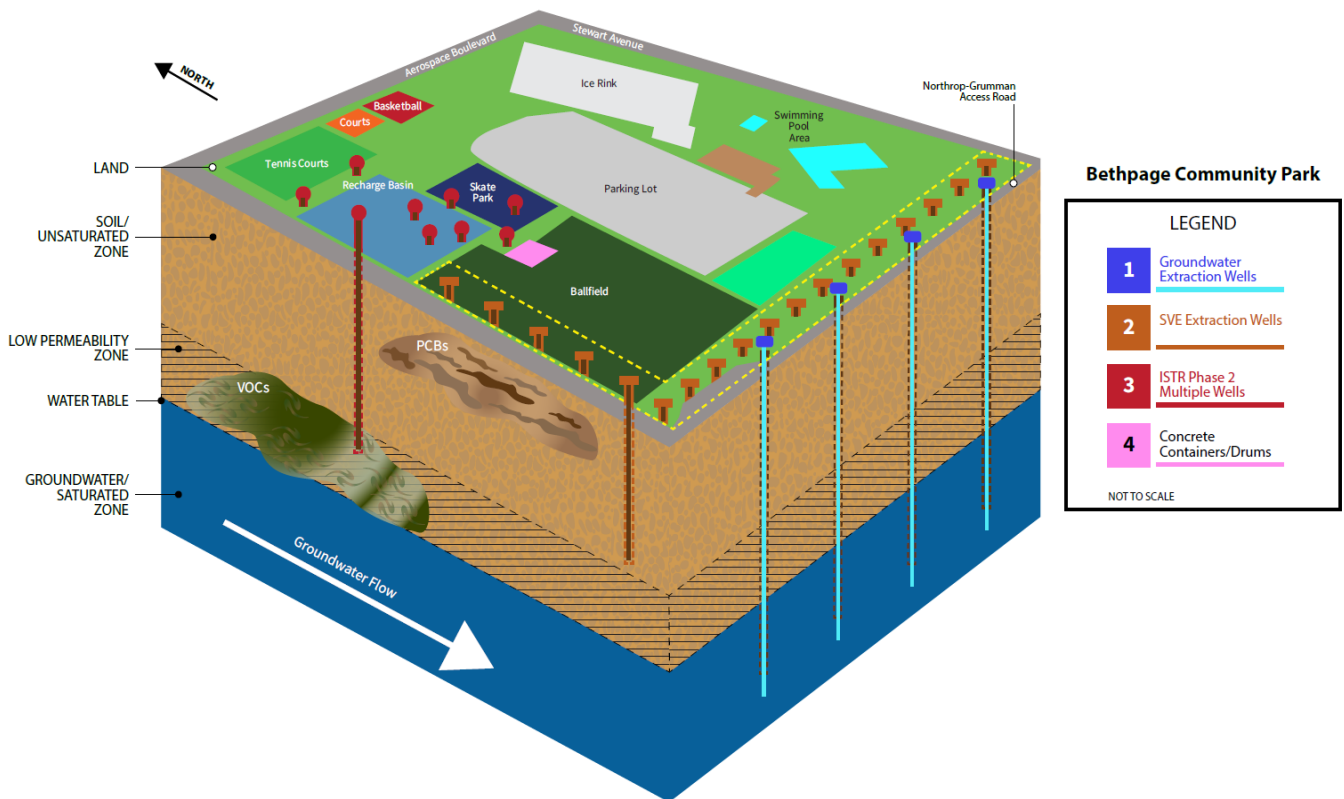
***Winter 2025:** The town of Oyster Bay and Northrop Grumman apply to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval of the required joint Risk-Based Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) application, which includes the plan to excavate and remove soil containing PCBs and metals for off-site disposal.

***Summer/Fall 2026:** EPA approval of the joint Risk-Based TSCA application.

*** Fall 2026:** Northrop Grumman begins the PCB and metals excavation.

*** Fall 2027:** The excavation of PCB- and metals-contaminated soil is completed after confirmatory testing ensures the project meets New York State cleanup standards.

**Anticipated dates pending finalization of an agreement between the town of Oyster Bay and Northrop Grumman.*



Map 3: Model of park showing depths of contamination and cleanup actions