



Fact Sheet – September 2025  
**Barnes Air National Guard Base**  
**Remedial Investigation for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

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The Air National Guard (ANG) is performing a Remedial Investigation (RI) for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at the Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) in Westfield, Massachusetts (referred to as the “Site.”) The goal of the RI is to determine the nature and extent of PFAS that were released to the environment during historical ANG activities. The work is supported by the United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, and their Contractor, Sustainment Restoration Services and Battelle Joint-Venture.

The U.S. Air Force and ANG used aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) containing PFAS to extinguish petroleum fires starting in approximately 1970. At Barnes ANGB, AFFF was used for fire training activities from 1950 until 1987. After that time, AFFF and high expansion foam continued to be used at the Base for emergency fire response until the early 2000s.

The Preliminary Assessment for PFAS at the Barnes ANGB, which completed research to identify potential areas of historical use and storage of AFFF, was finalized in 2016. Eight areas on or near the Base, designated as “Areas of Concern” (AOCs), were identified as warranting investigation. A Site Inspection (2018) and Expanded Site Inspection (2020) were subsequently completed to confirm whether releases of PFAS had occurred. Soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples were collected and analyzed for PFAS during these studies. Based on the results, all eight AOCs were recommended for further evaluation in an RI.

The RI will be conducted under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act program and in accordance with U.S. Department of Defense policies. Planned activities include additional groundwater, soil, surface water, and sediment sampling for PFAS, both at the Site and outside of the Base. The work will begin once property owners give permission for the crew to access their property through a signed Access Agreement with ANG.

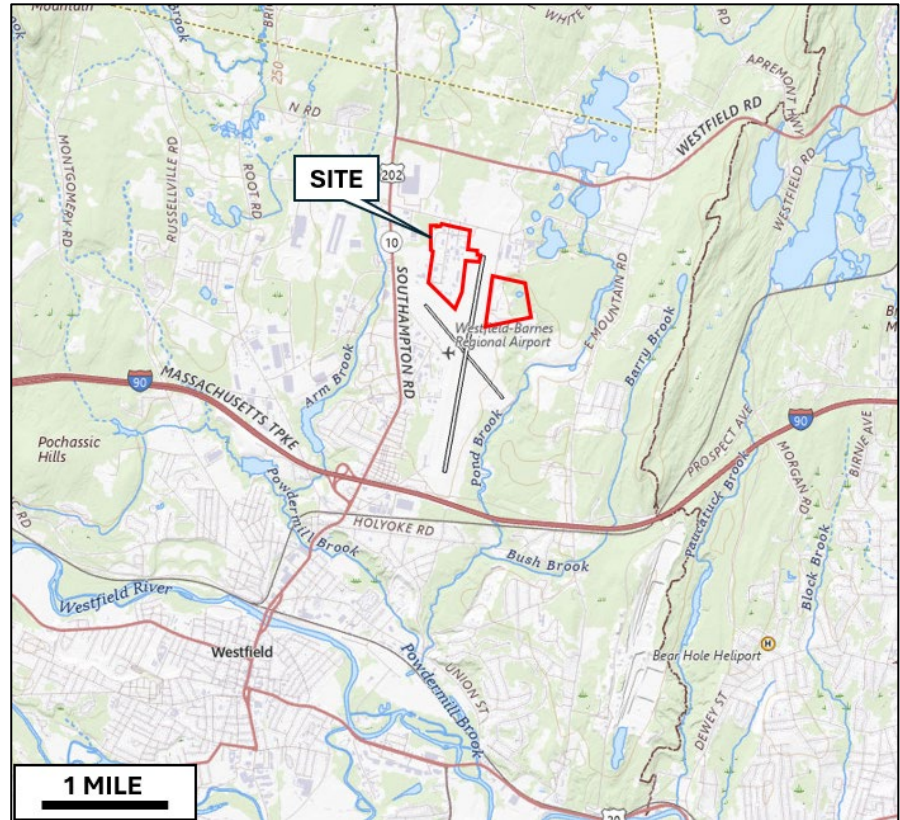


Figure 1. Location of the Barnes Air National Guard properties.

**104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing**

Barnes ANG Base, 815 Southamptn Road, Westfield, MA 01085

<https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/>



Figure 2. An environmental sampling drilling rig that can be used to sample soils and groundwater.

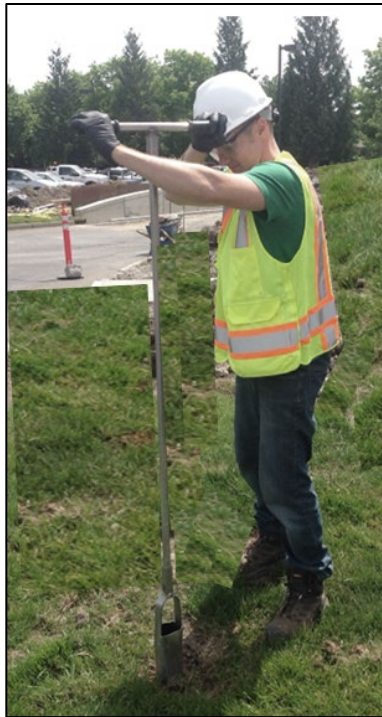


Figure 3. Sampling shallow soils using a hand auger.



Figure 4. Sampling groundwater from a monitoring well.

Finalized environmental reports and work plans developed as part of the investigation are available on the U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer Center Administrative Record online at <https://ar.cce.af.mil/>. Copies of the documents are also available at the Westfield Athenaeum Library. Quarterly Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings are held in Westfield, and community members are welcome to attend. The RAB meetings typically occur the fourth Thursday of the month at 6 PM. Please confirm the latest schedule and location information on the RAB website at <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>.

**MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE AIR FORCE AND AIR NATIONAL  
GUARD'S RESPONSE TO PFAS IS AVAILABLE AT:**

<https://www.afcec.af.mil/WhatWeDo/Environment/Perfluorinated-Compounds/>

**HOW TO CONTACT US:**

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