



Emergency Response and PFAS Remediation Restore Municipal Airport Site After Aircraft Incident

When an aircraft crash at a municipal airport in Massachusetts resulted in the release of **20 gallons of aviation fuel** and PFAS-containing firefighting foam, the incident quickly escalated into a complex environmental response. While the initial fire was contained, approximately **1,800 gallons of fire suppression foam** introduced per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into surrounding soil and sensitive wetland areas.

As a municipal facility with public safety and environmental responsibilities, the airport required immediate response, coordinated regulatory engagement, and a clear path to site restoration. Republic Services was engaged to manage the emergency response, remediation, and regulatory closure process from start to finish.

Opportunity

The situation required more than initial containment. The municipal airport needed a partner capable of managing environmental risk, coordinating with multiple regulatory agencies, and executing a remediation strategy that would restore the site while meeting state and federal requirements.

The response required coordination with:

- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- National Park Service
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)

The airport needed a solution that addressed immediate environmental concerns while delivering a defensible, long-term outcome that would satisfy regulatory standards and public expectations.



Sustainability in Action

Solution

Republic Services implemented a comprehensive emergency response and remediation strategy allowing the airport to return to normal operations quickly and mitigate environmental risk.

Emergency Response and Site Assessment

Republic Services was mobilized following the incident to assess site conditions and determine the extent of fuel and PFAS contamination. Early response efforts focused on stabilizing the site and developing a coordinated action plan with federal and state agencies.

This initial phase established a clear framework for environmental remediation and ensured alignment among all stakeholders.

Soil Excavation and Contaminant Removal

To eliminate impacted material, Republic Services conducted targeted excavation of contaminated soil. A total of **340 tons of soil impacted by fuel and PFAS** was removed and transported for proper landfill disposal.

This effort significantly reduced contaminant concentrations and prevented further migration into surrounding areas, including nearby wetlands.

Site Restoration and Environmental Recovery

Following excavation, Republic Services performed full site restoration activities, including:

- Backfilling excavated areas
- Final grading
- Installation of wetland landscaping

These efforts restored the site to stable conditions and supported environmental recovery.

Regulatory Coordination and Closure

Republic Services coordinated closely with MassDEP and other agencies throughout the project to ensure compliance with applicable regulations and response standards.

A formal **Risk Characterization** was conducted to evaluate potential impacts to human health, public welfare, safety, and the environment. Based on Republic Services' work, the site achieved a **"No Significant Risk" determination** and met the criteria for a **Permanent Solution** under MassDEP regulations.

This outcome confirmed that contaminant levels had been reduced to background levels and that the site no longer posed risk.



Data Points

Republic Services delivered measurable results across emergency response, remediation, and regulatory closure:

20

gallons of aviation fuel released

1,800

gallons of PFAS-containing foam deployed

340

tons of contaminated soil excavated and disposed

Incident Scope

Aircraft crash at a municipal airport

Remediation Activities

Soil impacted by fuel and PFAS removed
Wetland impact assessed and addressed

Restoration and Compliance

Site restored through excavation, backfill, grading, and landscaping

Coordination with FAA, National Park Service, and MassDEP

No Significant Risk determination achieved

Permanent Solution closure under MassDEP regulations



Bottom Line

Republic Services helped the airport respond to a complex environmental incident by implementing an end-to-end solution that delivered rapid emergency response, effective remediation, and regulatory closure. By managing fuel and PFAS contamination, coordinating with multiple agencies, and restoring the site, Republic Services reduced the customer's risk and protected public safety and the surrounding environment.

The successful outcome—including a No Significant Risk determination and Permanent Solution closure—demonstrates Republic Services' ability to support municipalities with **end-to-end emergency response and environmental remediation**, delivering results that meet regulatory standards and community expectations.

“Republic Services stepped in quickly and helped us manage a complex situation from start to finish. They coordinated with regulators, handled the cleanup and restoration, and made sure the site was returned to a safe, stable condition.”

- Industry Partner

Keys to Success

- ✓ Rapid emergency response following aircraft incident
- ✓ Integrated management of fuel and PFAS contamination
- ✓ Coordination with federal and state regulatory agencies
- ✓ Protection of nearby wetlands and environmental resources
- ✓ Full site restoration and environmental recovery
- ✓ Achievement of regulatory closure with Permanent Solution designation
- ✓ Demonstrated ability to manage municipal emergency response projects

If your organization experiences an emergency, call **800.799.4672** or visit **www.republicservices.com** to learn more.



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