# EPA'S BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

## What is a Braunfield?

A brownfield is "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

Are you frustrated with the blight of brownfields? Is reuse stalled due to concern of contamination? Are nearby residents potentially impacted by a brownfields property? The EPA's Brownfields Program provides communities with funding and assistance to characterize and revitalize brownfield sites.

Your community can apply for environmental site assessment, contamination cleanup, reuse planning and environmental job training grants. Eligible recipients include local governments, states, tribes, regional councils and state-chartered redevelopment agencies. Requests for Proposals (RfP) for most Brownfields grants are announced in early fall. Grants are nationally competed and usually require proposal submittal within 60 days of the RfP.

#### **Targeted Brownfields Assessments**

EPA's technical assistance is provided by EPA contractors under the Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) program. Typically, this assistance consists of EPA contractors conducting environmental assessments.

The TBA program is intended to help communities that do not have brownfield assessment grants. Applications are accepted year-round and reviewed by the Regional office. In addition to Phase I or Phase II environmental site assessments, assistance can include cleanup planning.

## Types of Financial Assistance

#### **Assessment Grants**

Assessment grants can be used to develop a brownfields inventory, conduct environmental site assessments, prepare cleanup and reuse plans, and conduct community outreach. Single eligible entities receive up to \$400,000 and coalitions can receive up to \$600,000 to assess hazardous substances and petroleum contaminants at eligible sites over a three-year grant period. Most assessment grant recipients are local governments.

#### **Cleanup Grants**

Cleanup grants provide funds to conduct environmental cleanups at a brownfields site owned by the applicant. Recipients must contribute a 20% matching share in the form of money, labor, materials or services. Most cleanup grant applicants are local governments, but certain non-profit organizations are eligible for funding. Recipients receive up to \$200,000 per brownfields site. The grant project period is three years.

#### **Area-Wide Planning (AWP) Grants**

AWP grants provide funds to conduct research, technical assistance, or training activities that will result in an area-wide plan for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. Recipients receive up to \$200,000 to conduct activities over a two-year grant period. Most AWP grant recipients are local governments, but certain non-profit organizations are eligible for funding.

#### **Revolving Loan Fund Grants (RLF)**

RLF grants provide funding to capitalize revolving loans and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. Eligible recipients can receive up to \$1,000,000 over a five-year period. Recipients must contribute a 20% matching share in the form of money, labor, materials or services that would be eligible and allowable costs under the grant.

#### **Job Training Grants**

An Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant is used to recruit, train and place under-employed and unemployed residents in the environmental field. Training programs may focus on hazardous and solid waste management, wastewater treatment, cleanup technologies and environmental health and safety. Eligible recipients include non-profit organizations and each recipient can receive up to \$200,000 to conduct training over a two-year period.



### Brownfields Revitalization Act

## What is EPA's Brownfields Program?

The Small Business Liability Relief and the Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002 allows EPA to provide funds for:

- ✓ Assessing and cleaning up brownfields
- ✓ Providing technical assistance and training
- ✓ Supporting state and tribal response programs

and exempt certain property owners from environmental liability.

EPA Brownfields:
A collaborative approach to environmental protection and cleanup, blight reduction, greenspace preservation, leveraged resources and job creation.

# EPA's Brownfields Program is Built on four pillars:

- ✓ Protecting the Environment
- ✓ Promoting Partnerships
- ✓ Strengthening the Marketplace
- ✓ Sustaining Reuse

For more information, please visit the EPA's Brownfields website at:

www.epa.gov/brownfields or contact us at (404) 562-8729.

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Investing in Brownfields for the Next Generation

Alabama ~ Florida ~ Georgia Kentucky ~ Mississippi North Carolina ~ South Carolina Tennessee And Six Federally Recognized Tribes







