



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Sebring, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site 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. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Village of Sebring was selected to receive an assessment grant. Sebring is a working class town with a deteriorated downtown district and brownfields sites that negatively impact its image. Sebring (pop. 223,000) is located in a predominantly agricultural area that was once known as the "pottery capital of the world." The village employed as many as 3,300 people during its years as a pottery-making town, but when the pottery industry died out in the 1960s many jobs were lost and the total workforce now totals only 2,005 workers. The properties slated for assessment once housed pottery factories, and have been idle for many years.



Assessment Grant

**New
2003**

\$154,426 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Village of Sebring for a brownfields assessment grant. The funds will be used to conduct Phase I and II environmental site assessments for properties that once housed pottery factories. Environmental concerns include dumped residue from the pottery-making process, including lead, arsenic, silica, uranium oxide, and solvents. Grant funds will also be used for community outreach and involvement.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team

312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Village of Sebring, OH

330-938-9340

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the Village of Sebring has not received brownfields grant funding.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.