



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

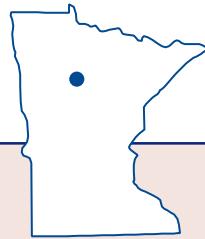
## Hennepin County, MN

### 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, the President 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

Hennepin County was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a revolving loan fund grant. Hennepin County, with a population of 1,114,977, incorporates the Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, including the Minneapolis urban Empowerment Zone (EZ) with its more than 55,000 residents. Although the region as a whole is notable for its strong economy, the quality of life is not evenly distributed. Unemployment, poverty, and crime are all markedly higher in the Empowerment Zone neighborhoods. The assessment project will focus on the routes and sites along the former "farm-to-market routes" and rail lines used to transport and distribute manufactured goods, which are located in the once rural, sparsely populated areas of northern and western Hennepin County. These areas are now the fastest growing residential regions of the



### Assessment Grant

New  
2004

\$200,000 for hazardous substances  
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Hennepin County Department of Housing, Community Works & Transit for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform approximately six to eight Phase I site assessments, perform two to four Phase II site assessments, and develop cleanup plans for one to three sites along the transit routes in the county. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform approximately six to eight Phase I site assessments, perform five to eight Phase II site assessments, and develop cleanup plans for four to seven sites with potential petroleum contamination in the same areas.

### Revolving Loan Fund Grant

New  
2004

\$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Hennepin County Department of Environmental Services to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Grant funds will be used to capitalize the Hennepin County Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund for hazardous substances cleanup. Funds also will be used for cleanup oversight and program development.

### 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](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team

312-886-7576

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

Grant Recipient: Hennepin County, MN

612-348-2215 (assessment)

612-348-5714 (revolving loan fund)

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

county, and are in great need of improved transportation. Assessment and cleanup of the sites and routes along these corridors are expected to stimulate greater public transit use, and provide inner city residents access to outlying employment centers. The revolving loan fund grant will give priority to projects within the EZ and other specially designated tax increment districts. It will be used to build on the success of the previously funded County projects that have created 156 new jobs and 197 new housing units, and have provided leverage for more than \$118 million in regional, state, local, and private development grants, incentives, and other funding.