



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

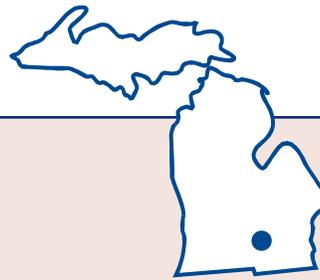
Jackson, MI

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

The City of Jackson was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Jackson is less affluent, more racially diverse, less educated, and younger than surrounding communities in Jackson County. Once a thriving center for automobile manufacturing, Jackson's plants have all closed since the economic downturn in the late 1970s. The vast majority of Jackson's heavy industries were located along the Grand River in the city core, now adjacent and within predominantly low-income residential neighborhoods. Jackson's population of 36,316 suffers from a 19.6 percent poverty rate, and among the 10,473 people living in the affected community, the poverty rate is 32.1 percent. Minorities comprise 26.1 percent of the population. Jackson's



Assessment Grant

New
2004

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

EPA has selected the City of Jackson for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances and petroleum funds will be used to conduct an area-wide assessment and inventory of 120 potentially contaminated former industrial properties along the Grand River in the Central Business District, and Arts and Cultural District. Jackson will also conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments on selected properties to characterize the level and extent of contamination. Once inventories are completed, Jackson will seek cleanup funding from the state.

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: Jackson, MI
517-768-6433

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

population has declined steadily over the past 70 years, and as of late 2003, 232 parcels within the city remain in forfeiture.