



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

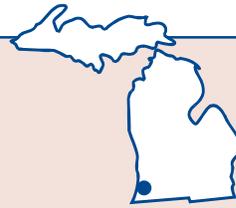
## *St. Joseph County Economic Development Corporation, MI*

### 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 St. Joseph County Economic Development Corporation was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. St. Joseph (population 62,422) is a largely rural county in south central Michigan that has been losing approximately 3,500 acres of farmland annually to sprawl, as manufacturing and retail facilities have relocated from its cities and town centers. The move out of core communities has left a legacy of joblessness and poverty in its wake. The poverty rates in the county's two most populous cities are 16.2 and 19.3 percent, respectively. Cleanup of these



### Assessment Grant

**New  
2004**

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

EPA has selected the St. Joseph County Economic Development Corporation for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct community outreach, perform Phase I and II site assessments, and draft redevelopment plans for sites around the county. Petroleum funds will be used to perform the same tasks at petroleum-contaminated sites.

### 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: St. Joseph County Economic  
Development Corporation, MI  
269-467-5653

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

brownfields will help preserve rapidly disappearing farmland and greenspace, and attract investment to improve the county tax base and provide jobs for its residents.