



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

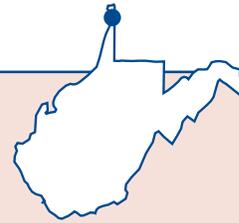
Brooke-Hancock- Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission, Brooke and Hancock Counties, WV

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 Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in the northern panhandle of West Virginia, Brooke and Hancock Counties have a combined population of 56,681. The Ohio River, its banks lined with industry, borders both of the counties. This region, famous for steel production, is now characterized by a declining population, a growing



Assessment Grant

**New
2005**

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct six to eight Phase I and four to six Phase II site assessments around the region. Funds also will be used for community outreach and involvement and to conduct remedial and reuse planning at up to five 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.

EPA Region 3 Brownfields Team
215-814-3129
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bfs/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson
Metropolitan Planning Commission, WV
740-282-3685

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

elderly population, and pockets of low-income residents. Unemployment and median household income rates in both counties are significantly below the national averages. The Commission has identified approximately 40 brownfields sites of various sizes, mostly in close proximity to the Ohio River. With brownfields redevelopment, the region hopes to spur a transition from its dependence on the stagnant steel industry to a more diverse economy focusing on entrepreneurship and environmentally friendly businesses. The Master Development Briefs for the region also call for the incorporation of greenspace and recreational opportunities.