



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

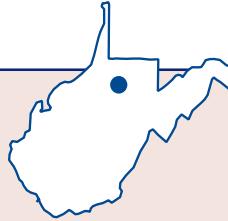
Clarksburg, WV

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 City of Clarksburg has been selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Clarksburg (population 16,743) is an old industrial town located in north central West Virginia. The city has experienced a significant decline in industrial operations since the mid-20th Century, when manufacturing and the coal mining industry provided most of the area's employment. The loss of approximately 4,000 manufacturing jobs and 2,000 coal mining-related jobs has had significant economic and social impacts. Nearly 20 percent of Clarksburg residents live in poverty. With 60 percent of the workforce dependent upon jobs outside of the city, young people are moving out, leaving behind an aging population in the neighborhoods established around many of the abandoned industrial and manufacturing



Cleanup Grant

New
2005

\$80,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Clarksburg for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to develop final cleanup specifications and remove contaminated soils and other materials from the West Virginia Mack property at Ohio Avenue and North Fourth Street. Funds also will be used to conduct community involvement activities. The site has been used for heavy industry, including a forge, warehouse, machine shops, iron works, garage, truck repair shop, and commercial salvage yard since the early 1900s.

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: City of Clarksburg, WV
304-624-1611

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

centers. Although the city is located near two major highways, the lack of greenfield sites and the perceived impediments of the brownfields sites have driven manufacturing and commerce outside of the city. Cleanup of brownfields properties will remove eyesores, eliminate potential health threats, and help the city attract industry and commerce. This, in turn, is expected to bring new job opportunities, increase property values and the city's tax base, and enhance the area with added greenspace.