



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

Macomb County, 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, 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

Macomb County was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Macomb County (population 788,146) is just north of the City of Detroit. The southern part of the county, from which the automobile industry has long driven Macomb's economy, reflects the county's ties to the Motor City. The county lost nearly 8,400 manufacturing jobs and over 2,600 other jobs during the economic downturn between 1999 and 2002. Literally hundreds of machine shops have been idled, leaving behind abandoned industrial corridors and devastated older neighborhoods in the area. The median household income in these neighborhoods is significantly lower than the county median, and the poverty rate is significantly higher. At the same time,



Assessment Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected Macomb County for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct community outreach activities, identify and prioritize potential sites, and complete an estimated 26 Phase I and ten Phase II environmental site assessments at properties throughout the county.

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: Macomb County, MI
586-469-5285

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

communities in the northern part of the county have been growing rapidly. Most new developments have been built on former agricultural lands. Assessment of brownfields sites will provide Macomb with the impetus to reverse the trend and turn blighted neighborhoods in the southern part of the county into vibrant communities, while preventing sprawl in the north.