



# Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

## Monroe, 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

The City of Monroe was selected to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Monroe, with a population of approximately 22,000, lies on the western shore of Lake Erie, between Detroit and Toledo.

Throughout much of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Monroe was an industrial city known for its paper production and port facilities. By the latter part of the century, the paper mills and numerous other industrial facilities were shuttered and abandoned, leaving over 750 acres of large brownfield sites near the heart of the city. In addition to being unproductive eyesores, these sites comprise over 70 percent of the developable land within the city. The loss of industry has also had its effects on the citizens of Monroe, with over 12 percent of them now living in poverty. Over 400 acres of the



### Revolving Loan Fund Grant

New  
2005

#### \$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Monroe for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which the City of Monroe will provide loans and subgrants to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with hazardous substances. The grant will target the 45-acre former Consolidated Packaging Corporation Northside Plant located at 921 East Elm Avenue, within the Mason Run development area.

### 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: City of Monroe, MI  
734-384-9135

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

large brownfields are in the target area of east/northeast Monroe, where they lie adjacent to established low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. Redevelopment efforts will concentrate on a former box-board manufacturing facility which is within the location of the city's Mason Run residential development project. Brownfields redevelopment will create housing and greenspace, reduce environmental threats to human health and the environment, stimulate the economic vitality of the downtown area, and increase property values.