



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

Newport, TN

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 Newport was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Newport has a population of approximately 7,200 inhabitants and is located in eastern Tennessee along the Pigeon River. It has a lower per capita income rate, higher poverty rate, and higher unemployment rate than the rest of the state. The target property is in a neighborhood with one of the lowest per capita income rates and one of the highest minority population rates in the city. This industrial property, located adjacent to the city's main business district, has been abandoned for several years and was last used to store hazardous chemicals. The deteriorating structure is an eyesore for people entering the city's downtown, a safety hazard, an environmental



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$79,500 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Newport for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to perform a Phase I and Phase II site assessment on the former 2.5-acre Mohawk Mills site, perform a natural resources evaluation of the site, develop remediation and reuse plans, and conduct community outreach activities.

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 4 Brownfields Team
404-562-8684
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Newport, TN
423-623-3008

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

hazard, and a potential source of contamination for soil and groundwater. The city plans to develop the property as a trailhead, riverfront park, river access point for canoeists, and parking lot for the city's downtown district. Redevelopment will remove visible blight, and have a beneficial impact on the economic and social vitality of the surrounding businesses and neighborhoods.