



# Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Manistee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, MI*

### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders 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 Manistee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Manistee County (population 24,527) is a rural, Great Lakes coastal county of approximately 544 square miles with a history of industry and shipping. The shoreline of Manistee Lake was home to heavy manufacturing and numerous facilities that produced brine and chemicals. The county estimates that there are about 35 sites with



### **Assessment Grants**

New  
2006

**\$198,200 for hazardous substances**  
**\$198,200 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the Manistee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory sites, conduct stakeholder and community outreach, and perform approximately 12 Phase I and up to eight Phase II environmental site assessments. The county will focus on its transportation corridors, renaissance zones, and industrial parks. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

### **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: Manistee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, MI  
231-723-6041

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

known contamination and an additional 70 to 80 sites with potential contamination in the county. Surface runoff and leaching of contaminants into Manistee Lake and the Manistee River pose threats to area residents and aquatic life. Groundwater, the county's only source of drinking water, is threatened by more than 53 sites, including leaking underground storage tanks, auto repair facilities, oil and gas wells, and unregulated dumps. The unemployment rate in

Manistee County is more than 50 percent higher than the national rate, and the median household income is only 77 percent of the state median. Assessment and subsequent cleanup of brownfields will help the county lower the risk profile for these sites and induce developers to return them to the tax rolls while relieving development pressure on greenspace.