



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

Wilmington, DE

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 City of Wilmington was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located between the Brandywine and Christina Rivers, Wilmington (population 72,664) has an industrial heritage centered on these rivers. The Christina River was ideal for steel and shipbuilding industries and for transporting manufactured goods to the Delaware River, and the fast-flowing Brandywine River provided hydroelectric power for textile and gun powder manufacturing. However, after World War II, this manufacturing base declined. Most of Wilmington's brownfields sites are concentrated in the predominately minority-populated northeastern, eastern, and southern portions of the city, with about 1,500 acres of brownfields. Wilmington has a poverty rate of 21.3 percent, and in the areas targeted for assessment, the poverty rate is 33.8 percent, and



Assessment Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Wilmington for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct approximately five to ten Phase I and II environmental site assessments, develop redevelopment plans, and implement 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 3 Brownfields Team
215-814-3129

<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bfs/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Wilmington, DE
302-576-2120

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

minorities comprise more than 70 percent of the population. Revitalized brownfields will be used for new residential opportunities, recreational areas, retail and commercial uses, and a riverfront walkway. Brownfields redevelopment will create jobs, remove blight, eliminate threats to public health and the environment, reduce crime rates, and foster renewed civic pride in communities.