



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

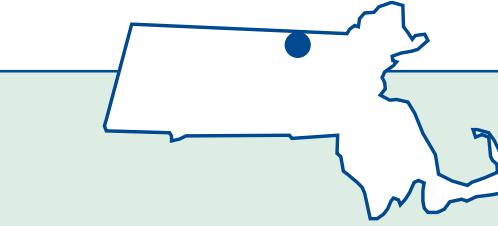
## *Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority, MA*

### 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 Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority (FRA) was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. The FRA is dedicated to reclaiming Fitchburg's old industrial core and transforming it into sustainable mixed-use developments. The City of Fitchburg (population 39,102) has 150 years of manufacturing history and is going through a difficult period transitioning away from an industry-based economy. The Nashua River was particularly impacted by manufacturing. It runs through the town and its banks are lined by older industrial properties. The town has



### Assessment Grants

**\$200,000 for hazardous substances**  
**\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct eight to ten Phase I and 20 to 40 Phase II environmental site assessments in Fitchburg's former manufacturing areas. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform similar activities at sites potentially contaminated with petroleum.

### 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 1 Brownfields Team  
617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority, MA  
978-945-9602

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

higher than average unemployment and poverty rates. Economic distress has resulted in a five percent out-migration of Fitchburg residents between 1990 and 2000. Identifying and assessing brownfields are critical to the city's efforts to reuse former industrial sites. Assessments will leverage brownfields redevelopment investments needed to provide locations for new housing, increase tax rolls, and create a vibrant downtown shopping district.