



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

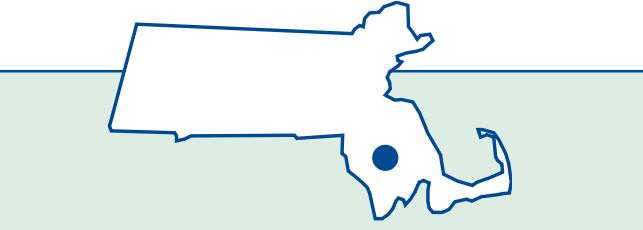
Taunton, MA

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 City of Taunton was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Located in southeastern Massachusetts, Taunton (population 55,976) is an old seaport community that historically sustained manufacturing businesses. With the downsizing and relocation of the manufacturing industries, Taunton was left with hundreds of acres of brownfields and many vacant, underused, and potentially contaminated properties. The loss of its commercial and industrial bases and general economic decline in the three target neighborhoods present significant challenges for the city. The median household incomes in these neighborhoods range from 61 to 74 percent of the state median. The poverty rate in the downtown area is 16.5 percent.



Assessment Grant

New 2007

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Taunton for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory and prioritize sites, perform up to ten Phase I and up to five Phase II environmental site assessments, and conduct community outreach activities.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

New 2007

\$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Taunton for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which the City of Taunton will provide loans and subgrants to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with hazardous substances. Grant funds also will be used to 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 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1424

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

Grant Recipient: City of Taunton, MA
508-821-1030

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.

Assessment of the city's brownfields will facilitate cleanup of these sites, which will reduce potential health and safety risks and visual blight. Brownfields cleanup and redevelopment is expected to spur private investment, create new jobs for the greater Taunton area, and increase greenspace along adjacent rivers.