



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

Auburn, ME

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 Auburn was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located along the Androscoggin River, Auburn (population 23,203) was once considered the shoe manufacturing capital of the world. Shoe manufacturing began in the area in the 1800s, and by the 20th Century, other large manufacturers operated in Auburn. Between 1980 and 2005, the city lost 27 percent of its manufacturing jobs, which were replaced with lower-paying jobs in the retail sector. More than 24 percent of families in downtown Auburn live below the poverty level, and the city's median household income is below state and national averages. Brownfield sites in the city contribute to a negative perception of Auburn. Brownfields assessments will help the city catalyze economic redevelopment and reduce potential threats to human health and the environment.



Assessment Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Auburn for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory brownfield sites, conduct ten Phase I and three to five Phase II environmental site assessments, and perform 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 Auburn, ME
207-333-6600

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.