



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

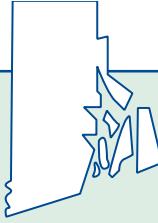
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

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 Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Rhode Island (population 1,048,319) has many communities that continue to struggle with challenges posed by their industrial past. The state is targeting communities located in the Blackstone River corridor and Pawtuxet River basin (target population 363,436) for brownfields assessment. These rivers are the two most heavily industrial-



Assessment Grant

New
2007

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform two Phase I and II environmental site assessments.

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: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
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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.

ized rivers flowing into one of Rhode Island's most important natural resources, Narragansett Bay. Several abandoned, distressed, and underused properties are located along riverfront areas. Communities in the target area, especially in the Blackstone River corridor, have high rates of poverty and unemployment as well as low per capita incomes. Brownfields assessment will help the state and local communities gain information about real and perceived environmental contamination at brownfield sites and leverage resources for redevelopment. Brownfields redevelopment is expected to increase economic opportunities, provide affordable housing, and lessen development pressures on Rhode Island's open space and working lands.