



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

Rochester, NY

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 Rochester was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a brownfields cleanup grant. Located in western New York, Rochester (population 220,000) is a federally designated Renewal Community. Between 1990 and 2000, the city lost five percent of its population, and 23.4 percent of families live in poverty. Many of the older underused industrial facilities in the city are obsolete, deteriorated, or contaminated. There are an estimated 2,300 brownfields in the city, which have become magnets for illegal dumping and blight. Assessment efforts will focus on the Lyell, Lake, State Street area, and the Vacuum Oil-South Genesee River Corridor, where there are more than 176 brownfields. The poverty level in the Lyell, Lake, State Street area is 35 percent. The unemployment rate in the Vacuum Oil-



Assessment Grant

New 2007

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Rochester for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct 12 to 15 Phase I and II environmental site assessments in two areas of the city where there are high concentrations of brownfields. Funds also will be used for community outreach activities.

Cleanup Grant

New 2007

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Rochester for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to clean up the former Photech Imaging Systems, Inc., site at 1000 Driving Park Avenue. The 12.2-acre site was formerly used as a photographic film and paper manufacturing facility, chemical laboratory, and incinerator. It is contaminated with metals and volatile organic compounds. Funds also will be used for 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 2 Brownfields Team
212-637-4314

[http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/
brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/brownfields/)

Grant Recipient: City of Rochester, NY
585-428-5978

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.

South Genesee River Corridor is 11 percent. The city's revitalization plans call for housing, retail, and other commercial development. Brownfields assessments will stimulate investment and help the city protect the Genesee River. Cleanup of the Photech Imaging Systems, Inc., site will provide industrial land for redevelopment in the center of the city.