



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

## Buchanan, MI

### 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 Buchanan was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in Berrien County in southwestern Michigan, Buchanan (population 4,681) is a rural community with a long history of manufacturing. Manufacturing activities have included water-powered mills, furniture production, and most recently, metal parts production. By 1960, the Clark Equipment Company had become Buchanan's driving economic force. Its plants occupied more than 30 acres near the city's downtown and along McCoy Creek. The company closed its facilities in 1985, resulting in the loss of 4,000 jobs and a steady decline in population. Closure of the Clark and other industrial and commercial operations has severely depressed the city's economy and left behind over 70 acres of brownfields



### Assessment Grant



#### \$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Buchanan for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to identify and prioritize brownfields in Buchanan's downtown area and along McCoy Creek. Grant funds also will be used to conduct eight Phase I and eight Phase II environmental site assessments and to support 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](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team  
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Buchanan, MI  
269-695-3844

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.

in this small town. Assessment of priority brownfields is expected to leverage cleanup and redevelopment investments.