



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

*Macatawa Area  
Coordinating Council,  
Western Michigan*

## 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 Macatawa Area Coordinating Council (MACC) was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. The MACC represents 13 communities (total population 119,365) near Lake Michigan, on the west Michigan shoreline. The area's economy is based on industry, tourism, and agriculture. Many of the industrial operations have closed, leaving behind empty, obsolete, and potentially contaminated buildings and properties. There are 123 contaminated sites and 575 leaking underground storage tanks in Allegan and Ottawa Counties, two of the MACC's 13 communities.



## Assessment Grants



**\$200,000 for hazardous substances  
\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory approximately 40 high-priority properties and perform Phase I, Phase II, and baseline environmental site assessments. Funds also will be used to support community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

## 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: Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, MI  
616-395-2688

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.

The need for migrant labor over the years has attracted a large Hispanic population to the region. The per capita income in the communities with large minority populations is just over one-half of the state level. Assessment of brownfields will help the MACC address the health risks associated with the potential contamination of the area's lakes, creeks, rivers, and

wetlands. Assessment also will increase the likelihood of development of the inner cities, helping to preserve agricultural land and greenspace.