



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Saint Matthew School Community Association, Inc., Natchitoches Parish, LA*

### 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 Saint Matthew School Community Association, Inc., was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. The Association seeks to revitalize a historic school building as a community and cultural center for the region's minority population. The site is located in Natchitoches Parish (population 39,080), where nearly



### Cleanup Grant

New  
2007

**\$197,996 for hazardous substances**

EPA has selected the Saint Matthew School Community Association, Inc., for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Saint Matthew High School site located at 2552 LA Highway 119 in Melrose. The site is contaminated with inorganic hazardous substances. Grant funds also will be used to support community involvement 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 6 Brownfields Team  
214-665-6780  
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: Saint Matthew School Community Association, Inc., LA  
318-356-5555

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.

21 percent of residents live below the poverty level, and 22.7 percent of households earn less than \$10,000 annually. The Saint Matthew High School site was the first public high school constructed for African-Americans in lower Natchitoches Parish and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Once the site is cleaned up, the Association can move forward with redevelopment of the building as a cultural center. The planned center will offer health, employment, educational, sports, and recreational programs.