



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Lewiston, ME

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 this 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 Lewiston was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Located in southern Maine, Lewiston (population 35,690) is the state's second largest city. In recent years, the city has experienced an influx of approximately 3,000 Somali refugees, many in need of employment. Most have settled in the city's Enterprise Community, where unemployment rates are three to four times higher than those of the city and state, and the individual poverty rate is 41.8 percent. Many historic industrial areas in the city are currently underutilized or vacant since the closure of the majority of manufacturing operations within the city. After the target site is cleaned up, the city plans to reuse it as greenspace.



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Lewiston for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the former Androscoggin Mill No. 8 site at 15 Locust Street. The site was originally part of a textile mill complex built in 1860, and over the years has had a number of industrial uses, including auto repair and service, coal storage, and hydropower generation. The site is contaminated with inorganic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, and PCBs. Grant funds also will be used for 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.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Lewiston, ME
207-513-3000, ext. 3231

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.