



# Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Delta County, 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 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

Delta County was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Located near the south end of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Delta County (population 38,520) is comprised of lakefront communities, deep water ports, forest lands, and key highway transportation corridors. It contains more than 140 inland lakes along 144 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, making it a prime area for water recreation and fishing. Lumber and commercial fishing were the primary industries until 1864, when construction of the railroad was completed. This allowed the iron mining industry, which is still in operation today, to flourish. Paper production and metal fabrication also play an important role in the economy of area. Former wood-treating and iron production facilities, gas stations, and petroleum offloading corridors are potential brownfields. Almost



### Assessment Grants



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

EPA has selected Delta County for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to create a brownfields inventory within the county and conduct Phase I and II environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to conduct 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: Delta County, MI  
906-789-5100

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.

12 percent of county residents live below the poverty level. The county would like to expand its tourism, entertainment, and recreation opportunities. Assessment of properties in Delta County will clarify concerns about environmental contamination at brownfields and is expected to help expedite redevelopment.