



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Otsego County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, 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

The Otsego County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in northern Michigan, Otsego County (population 24,665) is a rural area consisting of nine townships, a city, a village, and three unincorporated villages. In 2006, Georgia Pacific, the county's largest employer, closed its particle board manufacturing plant, resulting in the loss of 210 direct



Assessment Grant

New
2008

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Otsego County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct electromagnetic ground-penetrating radar surveys and other site assessment activities at the 59-acre former Champion Products Sawdust/Waste Dump area at 2212 Dickerson Road in Gaylord. This site was once part of a 933-acre particle board manufacturing plant. 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.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>

Grant Recipient: Otsego County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, MI
989-731-0288

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.

jobs, 155 secondary supplier jobs, and more than \$12 million in annual wages. Unemployment in the county averages 8.9 percent. From the mid-1960s through the mid-1970s, the former Champion Products Sawdust/Waste Dump area was used to dispose of particle board manufacturing wastes. The target site currently

is vacant and poses potential risks to human health and the environment, including a potential threat to groundwater, the county's source of drinking water. Assessment of the site will help the county evaluate potential environmental issues at the site and is expected to facilitate the planned reuse of the site for a plant and forest research area.