



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

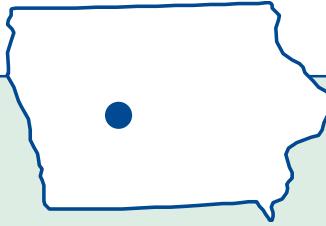
Perry, IA

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 Perry was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Located in central Iowa, Perry (population 7,693) grew around the railroad industry in the early 1900s as railroad employees established residences in nearby neighborhoods. As the railroad phased out operations in Perry, railroad property and adjacent areas experienced disinvestment and economic decline. About 24 percent of the city's residents are Hispanic, and the poverty rate is 12 percent. The Roundhouse property has reduced surrounding property values, and on-site contaminants pose risks to the adjacent Raccoon River, a significant source of potable water for Perry and the Des Moines metropolitan area. Cleanup of the site is expected to reduce environmental contamination and leverage additional investment in nearby areas. The city plans to



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Perry for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the former Roundhouse property at 1 Court Street between St. Paul and Park Streets on the city's west side. Beginning in the early 1900s, the site was used by the railroad industry for maintenance activities and storage. It is contaminated with polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons and metals. 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 7 Brownfields Team

800-223-0425

<http://www.epa.gov/region7/cleanup/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Perry, IA

515-465-2481

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.

reuse the site for a recreational trail and an interpretive center that will preserve the historic impact of railroads in central Iowa.