



# Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilot

## Mansfield, OH

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

*EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$250,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, brownfields cleanup revolving loan fund (BCRLF) programs (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years), to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.*

### BACKGROUND

Mansfield is situated in the State of Ohio between Columbus and Cleveland. The decline of heavy industry in the late 1970's and 1980's contributed to Mansfield's high poverty and unemployment rates, which are 18% and 9% respectively, and has led to the creation of many brownfields sites. A part of the Midwest rust belt, the City's primary employment is in the automobile and metal working industries. Today numerous brownfields sites keep property values in adjoining neighborhoods depressed and limit the city's growth potential.

The City of Mansfield has a brownfields redevelopment master plan titled the "PR Project-Path to Revitalization" ("PR Project"). The "PR Project" focuses on identification, assessment, cleanup, redevelopment, and prevention of brownfields. The City of Mansfield used its EPA Assessment Demonstration Pilot funds to support the first steps in its PR Project. The City intends to use its BCRLF award to further support the PR Project and address sites within a redevelopment zone extending from the southern edge of downtown north through an industrial zone, approximately six miles towards the Mansfield Airport. This corridor represents a mix of commercial and light and heavy manufacturing and idle and under-used brownfields properties.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



Mansfield, Ohio

Date of Announcement:  
April 2001

Amount: \$1.0 million

BCRLF Target Area:  
"PR Project"  
Redevelopment Zone

### Contacts:

City of Mansfield  
Economic Development Department  
(419) 775-9794

Region 5 Brownfields  
Coordinator  
(312) 886-3058

Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:  
[www.epa.gov/region05/waste/brown/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region05/waste/brown/index.htm)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot 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)

## BCRLF OBJECTIVES

The City of Mansfield's BCRLF program will be used to cleanup brownfields sites as the next step of its PR Project. Cleanup is expected to attract new industries to the area, increase employment opportunities, and restore the City's tax base. In addition, the program will improve neighborhood conditions and reduce health risks. The City is considering two City-owned properties for its BCRLF program: (1) the former Mansfield Plastics plant, an 8-acre chrome plating operation with suspected subsurface contaminants, and (2) a former pump manufacturing facility with subsurface contaminants and a 50,000 square foot building that is slated for re-use. In addition, the Pilot will make low interest loans available to all eligible parties in the City's brownfields redevelopment master plan.

## FUND STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

The City of Mansfield's Economic Development Department will serve as the lead agency. The Finance Office will serve as the fund manager. The Economic Development Department will serve as site manager.

## LEVERAGING OTHER RESOURCES

The City will rely on the Richland Economic Development Corporation and Mansfield Chamber of Commerce to help with outreach to prospective businesses on "The Benefits of Brownfields Redevelopment." These entities will encourage businesses and/or individuals looking to relocate or expand within the community to consider the re-development of existing property.

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*Use of BCRLF Pilot funds must be in accordance with CERCLA, and all CERCLA restrictions on use of funding also apply to BCRLF funds.*

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