

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Rhode Island

May 2006

"The term 'brownfield site' means 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." (from the federal Brownfields Act of 2002)

SUMMARY OF BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

Originally begun as an EPA initiative in January 1995, the US EPA National Brownfields Program has since evolved into a collaborative effort involving many federal, state and local partners. In January 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act ("the Brownfields law") was signed. This law expanded potential federal assistance for Brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, and job training. The law also includes provisions to establish and enhance state and tribal response programs, which will continue to play a critical role in the successful cleanup and revitalization of brownfields. Below is a summary of the US EPA Region 1 funding for each of the key Brownfields initiatives.

EPA Brownfields Funding in New England: Program Distribution by State (1994-2006)*							
Program	CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	Total
Assessment Grants	\$7,789,130	\$4,309,017	\$16,120,131	\$2,429,000	\$2,103,000	\$6,010,000	\$38,760,278
Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants	\$7,568,000	\$5,280,000	\$11,568,000	\$4,051,790	\$5,690,000	\$2,000,000	\$36,157,790
Cleanup Grants	\$3,685,500	\$750,000	\$4,072,883	\$800,000	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$11,108,383
Job Training Grants	\$1,340,264	\$200,000	\$1,888,799	\$0	\$350,000	\$0	\$3,779,063
EPA Targeted Assessments (TBA)	\$2,077,470	\$426,339	\$3,443,869	\$398,926	\$314,217	\$266,621	\$6,927,442
State Brownfields Funding	5,896,608	\$4,291,663	\$7,907,315	\$6,626,543	\$4,943,379	\$2,226,543	\$31,892,051
Showcase Communities	\$300,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$1,400,000
Total	\$28,656,972	\$15,257,019	\$45,800,997	\$14,306,259	\$15,500,596	\$10,503,164	\$130,025,007

*Funding total current as of May 2006

Recipients receiving funding in May 2006 are in bold

ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Brownfields Assessment Grant Program awards grants to local, tribal and state governmental entities to conduct site assessment and related activities at brownfields properties. Grants are awarded for up to \$200,000 to assess properties for co-mingled hazardous waste or petroleum contamination. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Assessment Grants awarded in Rhode Island since 1994.

Assessment Grant Program	
Recipient	Funding
Cranston	\$200,000
Providence	\$450,000
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	\$400,000
Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation	\$600,000
Warwick	\$150,000
Woonsocket	\$303,000
Assessment Grant Program Total:	\$2,103,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROGRAM

Under this initiative, grants are awarded to eligible local, tribal and state entities to establish and capitalize revolving loan funds to assist private and public entities in cleaning up contaminated sites. Grants are for up to \$1,000,000 initially and eligible communities may team together to establish larger revolving loan funds pools. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Revolving Loan Fund Grants awarded in Rhode Island since 1994.

Revolving Loan Fund Program	
Recipient	Funding
Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation / Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	\$1,700,000
Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation / City of Providence / City of Pawtucket	\$3,990,000
Revolving Loan Fund Program Total:	\$5,690,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

CLEANUP GRANT PROGRAM

Under this initiative, EPA funds are awarded to eligible local, state, tribal and non-profit entities to conduct cleanup activities on eligible brownfields properties. Grants are for up to \$200,000 per property. Entities must own the property at the time of award to be eligible for funding. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Cleanup Grants awarded in Rhode Island since 2003.

Cleanup Grant Program		
Recipient	Site	Funding
Municipalities		
Burrillville	Stillwater Mill Complex, 246 Harrisville Main Street	\$200,000
Providence	Former Lincoln Lace & Braid Mill, 55 Ponagansett Avenue	\$200,000
	Louttit Laundry Site, 93 Cranston Street	\$200,000
Non-Profit Organizations		
East Providence – Meeting Street National Center of Excellence	960, 962, 996 and 1000 Eddy Street and 43 Haswell Street, Providence	\$200,000
Providence – Johnson and Wales University	Parcel 7, 250 Shipyard Street, Providence	\$200,000
	Parcel 9, Harborside Boulevard	\$200,000
	Parcel 10, Harborside Boulevard	\$200,000
Providence – Providence Community Health Centers	Federated Lithographers Building, 369 Prairie Avenue	\$200,000
Providence – Trust for Public Land	67 Melissa Street, Providence	\$200,000
Cleanup Grant Program Total:		\$1,800,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.		

JOB TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

The Brownfields Job Training Program funding is used to train workers in the field of hazardous waste assessment and remediation. To be eligible for these grants, the applicants must be affiliated with an existing Brownfields Assessment Grant Program recipient. Grants are for up to \$200,000. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Job Training Grants awarded in Rhode Island since 1994.

Job Training Grant Program	
Recipient	Funding
Groundworks Providence	\$350,000
Job Training Grant Program Total:	\$350,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENTS (TBA)

Under this initiative, EPA uses its contractors to conduct brownfields assessments at sites identified by the local entity as being a high priority for reuse. Brownfields assessments typically involve a review of existing site records, site sampling and preparation of a preliminary clean-up cost estimate. The information gathered allows local government officials and developers to make informed decisions regarding the redevelopment potential of a site. Below is a summary of the sites and amount of TBA funding received in Rhode Island since 1997.

EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments		
Recipient	Site	Approx. Value of Assessment
Central Falls	Spintex Mill, 1461 High Street	\$28,183
Providence	Narragansett Landing, Allens Avenue	\$41,614
	Rau Fasteners (West Elmwood Housing Development), 102 Westfield Street	\$110,782
	Save the Bay, 100 Bayview Drive	\$133,638
EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments Total:		\$314,217*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.		

STATE BROWNFIELDS FUNDING

EPA also offers funding to directly support state brownfields activities including funds to establish and enhance state brownfields programs (also known as voluntary cleanup programs), to conduct site specific assessment and cleanup, to develop revolving loan fund programs and to develop insurance tools. Below is a summary of the amount of funding received in Rhode Island since 1994.

Financial Assistance to State Brownfields Program	
Recipient	Funding
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	\$4,943,379
State Program Total:	\$4,943,379*

*Funding total current as of May 2006.

SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES

As part of the multi-federal agency Brownfields National Partnership, sixteen communities were selected to receive Showcase Community designation following a national competition. The federal partners work with selected communities to revitalize brownfields properties. EPA provided each with a \$200,000 Brownfields Demonstration Pilot and assigned an EPA employee to work full time in the designated community for two years.

Showcase Communities	
Recipient	Funding
Providence / State of Rhode Island	\$300,000
Showcase Communities Total:	\$300,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

EPA NEW ENGLAND BROWNFIELDS SECTION

BROWNFIELDS SECTION CHIEF

Carol Tucker, 617-918-1221

BROWNFIELDS COORDINATOR

Diane Kelley 617-918-1424

ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Alan Peterson 617-918-1022

REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROGRAM

Joe Ferrari 617-918-1105

CLEANUP GRANT PROGRAM

Jim Byrne 617-918-1389

JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

Christine Lombard, 617-918-1305

TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Jim Byrne 617-918-1389

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATE BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

Diane Kelley 617-918-1424

Visit: www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields