

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# Rhode Island

## April 2008

*"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 Region1 funding for each of the key Brownfields initiatives.

**EPA Brownfields Funding in New England: Program Distribution by State (1994-2008)\***

Program	CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	Total
Assessment Grants	<a href="#">\$10,148,630</a>	<a href="#">\$5,909,017</a>	<a href="#">\$20,720,131</a>	<a href="#">\$4,229,000</a>	<a href="#">\$2,703,000</a>	<a href="#">\$8,310,000</a>	\$52,019,778
Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants	<a href="#">\$9,529,645</a>	<a href="#">\$5,568,355</a>	<a href="#">\$13,668,000</a>	<a href="#">\$4,201,790</a>	<a href="#">\$5,690,000</a>	<a href="#">\$2,000,000</a>	\$40,657,790
Cleanup Grants	<a href="#">\$6,285,500</a>	<a href="#">\$2,580,744</a>	<a href="#">\$8,475,033</a>	<a href="#">\$1,800,000</a>	<a href="#">\$4,400,000</a>	\$0	\$23,541,277
Job Training Grants	<a href="#">\$1,740,264</a>	<a href="#">\$200,000</a>	<a href="#">\$2,088,799</a>	\$0	<a href="#">\$350,000</a>	\$0	\$4,379,063
EPA Targeted Assessments (TBA)	<a href="#">\$2,177,470</a>	<a href="#">\$426,339</a>	<a href="#">\$3,743,869</a>	<a href="#">\$398,926</a>	<a href="#">\$314,217</a>	<a href="#">\$266,621</a>	\$7,327,442
State & Tribal Brownfields Funding	<a href="#">\$6,942,301</a>	<a href="#">\$5,574,137</a>	<a href="#">\$9,407,315</a>	<a href="#">\$7,834,017</a>	<a href="#">\$6,150,853</a>	<a href="#">\$2,976,108</a>	\$38,884,731
Showcase Communities	<a href="#">\$300,000</a>	\$0	<a href="#">\$800,000</a>	\$0	<a href="#">\$300,000</a>	\$0	\$1,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,123,810</b>	<b>\$20,258,592</b>	<b>\$58,903,147</b>	<b>\$18,463,733</b>	<b>\$19,908,070</b>	<b>\$13,552,729</b>	<b>\$168,210,081</b>

\*Funding total current as of April 2008

**ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, and local governments are eligible to apply for funding to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 to address sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum) and \$200,000 to address sites contaminated by petroleum. A community-wide proposal is one in which sites are not specifically identified. The performance period of these grants is three years and recipients are selected through an annual 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	2008 Funding	Total Funding
<a href="#">Cranston</a>		\$200,000
<a href="#">Providence</a>		\$450,000
<a href="#">Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management</a>	\$400,000	\$1,000,000
<a href="#">Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation</a>		\$600,000
<a href="#">Warwick</a>		\$150,000
<a href="#">Woonsocket</a>		\$303,000
<b>Assessment Grant Program Total:</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$2,703,000*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.		

**REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, and local governments are eligible to apply for funding to capitalize a revolving loan fund (RLF) and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields sites. Applicants may apply for \$1,000,000 to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances. Two or more eligible entities may team together to form a coalition to pool their revolving loan funds. Revolving loan funds generally are used to provide no-interest or low-interest loans for brownfields cleanups. An RLF grant recipient may also use up to 40% of the awarded funds to award subgrants to other eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, for brownfields cleanups on sites owned by the subgrantee. A grant recipient cannot subgrant to itself. An RLF grant requires a 20% cost share. The performance period of these grants is five years and recipients are selected through an annual 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
<a href="#">Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation / Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management</a>	\$1,700,000
<a href="#">Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation / City of Providence / City of Pawtucket</a>	\$3,990,000
<b>Revolving Loan Fund Program Total:</b>	<b>\$5,690,000*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.	

**CLEANUP GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, local governments and nonprofits are eligible to apply for funding to carry out cleanup activities at Brownfields sites that they own. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 per site to address sites contaminated by petroleum and/or hazardous substances. Cleanup grants require a 20% cost share. Eligible applicants must own the site for which it is requesting funding in order to qualify. The performance period of these grants is three years and recipients are selected through an annual 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	2008 Funding	Total Funding
<b>Municipalities</b>			
<a href="#">Burrillville</a>	Stillwater Mill Complex, 246 Harrisville Main Street		\$200,000
Middletown	Town Center in the Valley, High Street & O'Neill Blvd.	\$200,000	\$200,000
<a href="#">Pawtucket</a>	Front Street – Parcel 5, 164 Front Street		\$200,000
	Front Street – Parcel 9, 182 Front Street		\$200,000
	Front Street – Parcel 13, 210 Front Street		\$200,000
<a href="#">Providence</a>	Lincoln Lace & Braid Mill, 55 Ponagansett Avenue		\$200,000
	Louttit Laundry Site, 93 Cranston Street		\$200,000
Richmond	Knowles Mill Site, 5 Railroad Street	\$200,000	\$200,000
Woonsocket	ACS Industries, 71 Villa Nova Street	\$200,000	\$200,000
	FDS Industries, 138 Hamlet Avenue	\$200,000	\$200,000
	Florence Dye Works, 168 Florence Drive	\$200,000	\$200,000

Recipient	Site	2008 Funding	Total Funding
<b>Non-Profit Organizations</b>			
East Providence – <a href="#">Meeting Street National Center of Excellence</a>	960, 962, 996 and 1000 Eddy Street and 43 Haswell Street, Providence		\$200,000
Providence – <a href="#">Johnson and Wales University</a>	Parcel 7, 250 Shipyard Street, Providence		\$200,000
	Parcel 9, Harborside Boulevard		\$200,000
	Parcel 10, Harborside Boulevard		\$200,000
Providence – <a href="#">Providence Community Health Centers</a>	Federated Lithographers Building, 369 Prairie Avenue		\$200,000
	Beaman & Smith Factory Complex – Building #1, 20 Gordon Avenue	\$200,000	\$200,000
	Beaman & Smith Factory Complex – Building #2 & Parking Lot, 20 Gordon Avenue	\$200,000	\$200,000
Providence – <a href="#">Rhode Island Family Life Center</a>	485 Plainfield Street		\$200,000
Providence – <a href="#">Trust for Public Land</a>	67 Melissa Street, Providence		\$200,000
Providence – <a href="#">Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build</a>	Providence Steel & Iron – Lot 2, 27 Sims Avenue		\$200,000
	Providence Steel & Iron – Lot 3, 27 Sims Avenue		\$200,000
<b>Cleanup Grant Program Total:</b>		<b>\$1,400,000</b>	<b>\$4,400,000*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.			

**JOB TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, local governments and non-profits are eligible to apply for funding to assist residents of communities impacted by Brownfields take advantage of jobs created by the assessment and cleanup of brownfields. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 and must be located within or near a Brownfields Assessment Grant community. The Job Training Grant Program’s goals are to prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field and to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances. The performance period of these grants is two years and recipients are selected through an annual 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
<a href="#">Groundworks Providence</a>	\$350,000
<b>Job Training Grant Program Total:</b>	<b>\$350,000*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.	

**TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENTS (TBA)**

One of EPA’s non-grant programs is the Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program. TBAs are conducted by an EPA contractor on behalf of municipalities or non-profits. This is a “grant of services” where an EPA contractor performs the site assessment. The purpose of a TBA is to minimize the uncertainties associated with actual or perceived contamination that complicates the redevelopment of vacant or underutilized properties. The average value of these assessments is \$100,000. There is usually one round of selections per year and applications are accepted at any time. The Brownfields Law expanded the TBA program’s eligible sites to also include those contaminated solely by petroleum products. Call Jim Byrne at (617) 918-1389 for more information. 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	<a href="#">Spintex Mill, 1461 High Street</a>	\$28,183
Providence	<a href="#">Narragansett Landing, Allens Avenue</a>	\$41,614
	<a href="#">Rau Fasteners (West Elmwood Housing Development), 102 Westfield Street</a>	\$110,782
	<a href="#">Save the Bay, 100 Bayview Drive</a>	\$133,638
<b>EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments Total:</b>		<b>\$314,217*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.		

**STATE BROWNFIELDS FUNDING**

States and tribes play a significant role in identifying, cleaning up and redeveloping brownfield properties. EPA provides up to \$50 million annually in grants to states and tribes to establish or enhance their response programs that address the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields. States and tribes can use this funding to establish or expand voluntary cleanup programs, perform environmental assessments and cleanups, capitalize a cleanup revolving loan fund, purchase environmental insurance, establish or maintain a public record of sites, oversee cleanups, and to conduct site specific activities. Below is a summary of the amount of funding received in Rhode Island since 1994.

State Brownfields Funding	
Recipient	Funding
<a href="#">Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management</a>	\$6,150,853
<b>State Program Total:</b>	<b>\$6,150,853*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.	
State Assessments	
Recipient	Site
Bristol	Buttonwood Industrial Complex
Burrillville	Stillwater Mill Complex, Clock Tower Building Parcel
Charlestown	Kenyon Piece Landfill
Coventry	Harris Park
Cranston	Park View Recreational Facility
	Pawtuxet River Park
Gloucester	Chepachet River Park
Middletown	Town Center in the Valley
Pawtucket	Dr. Golf Site
	Festival Pier
	Privet Street Project
Providence	356 Public Street
	Former Gorham Property
	Olneyville Family Resource Center
	Westfield Lofts
Richmond	Knowles Mills, 5 Railroad Street
Warren	Jamiel's Park & Landfill
Warwick	Pontiac Enterprises
	T.H. Baylis
Westerly	Stand Up for Animals
West Warwick	Crompton Mills Raceway
	West Warwick Senior Center
Woonsocket	Consolidated Auto Screen Facility
	Lots 165 & 175
	Woonsocket Sparging Mill

**SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES**

Showcase Communities were selected as national models demonstrating the benefits of collaborative activity on brownfields. The communities are distributed across the country and vary by size, resources, and community type. A wide range of support from federal agencies and in the form of tax incentives were leveraged, depending on the needs of each Showcase Community. An important goal of this program was to develop national models that demonstrate the positive results of public and private collaboration to address brownfields challenges. Showcase Communities were selected through a national competition in 1998 & 2000.

Showcase Communities	
Recipient	Funding
<a href="#">Providence / State of Rhode Island</a>	\$300,000
<b>Showcase Communities Total:</b>	<b>\$300,000*</b>
*Funding total current as of April 2008.	

**EPA NEW ENGLAND BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM CONTACTS**

**BROWNFIELDS SECTION CHIEF**

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Visit: [www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields)