

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Rhode Island

May 2009

"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 (1994-2009)*							
Program	CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	Total
Assessment Grants	\$11,348,630	\$7,659,017	\$23,520,131	\$6,029,000	\$2,703,000	\$9,310,000	\$60,569,778
Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants	\$12,029,645	\$8,268,355	\$14,668,000	\$4,701,790	\$5,690,000	\$2,000,000	\$47,357,790
Cleanup Grants	\$7,425,500	\$3,180,744	\$10,028,533	\$2,400,000	\$5,000,000	\$600,000	\$28,634,777
Job Training Grants	\$2,140,264	\$200,000	\$2,338,799	\$0	\$350,000	\$0	\$5,029,063
EPA Targeted Assessments (TBA)	\$2,577,470	\$626,339	\$4,403,869	\$398,926	\$514,217	\$366,621	\$8,887,442
State & Tribal Funding	\$8,937,994	\$8,134,361	\$12,382,315	\$10,164,267	\$8,482,572	\$4,525,752	\$52,627,261
Showcase Communities	\$300,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$1,400,000
Total	\$44,759,503	\$28,068,816	\$68,141,647	\$23,693,983	\$23,039,789	\$16,802,373	\$204,506,111

*Funding total current as of May 2009

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. Coalitions of three or more eligible entities may apply for up to \$1,000,000 and must assess a minimum of five sites. 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	Funding
Cranston	\$200,000
Providence	\$450,000
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	\$1,000,000
Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation	\$600,000
Warwick	\$150,000
Woonsocket	\$303,000
Assessment Grant Program Total:	\$2,703,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.	

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
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 2009.	

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	2009 Funding	Total Funding
Municipalities			
Burrillville	Stillwater Mill Complex, 246 Harrisville Main Street		\$200,000
East Providence	Riverside Square Project, 336-348 Bullocks Point Avenue & 12 Fenner Avenue	\$200,000	\$200,000
Glocester	Chepachet River Park Site, Putnam Pike & Oil Mill Lane	\$200,000	\$200,000
Middletown	Town Center in the Valley, High Street & O'Neill Blvd.		\$200,000
Pawtucket	Former Industrial Laundry Facility, 345 Pine Street	\$200,000	\$200,000
	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
Providence	Lincoln Lace & Braid Mill, 55 Ponagansett Avenue		\$200,000
	Louttit Laundry Site, 93 Cranston Street		\$200,000

Recipient	Site	2009 Funding	Total Funding
Richmond	Knowles Mill Site, 5 Railroad Street		\$200,000
Woonsocket	ACS Industries, 71 Villa Nova Street		\$200,000
	FDS Industries, 138 Hamlet Avenue		\$200,000
	Florence Dye Works, 168 Florence Drive		\$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
	Beaman & Smith Factory Complex – Building #1, 20 Gordon Avenue		\$200,000
	Beaman & Smith Factory Complex – Building #2 & Parking Lot, 20 Gordon Avenue		\$200,000
Providence – Rhode Island Family Life Center	485 Plainfield Street		\$200,000
Providence – Trust for Public Land	67 Melissa Street, Providence		\$200,000
Providence – Woonasquatucket Valley Community Build	Providence Steel & Iron – Lot 2, 27 Sims Avenue		\$200,000
	Providence Steel & Iron – Lot 3, 27 Sims Avenue		\$200,000
Cleanup Grant Program Total:		\$600,000*	\$5,000,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.			

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.

Job Training Grant Program	
Recipient	Funding
Groundworks Providence	\$350,000
Job Training Grant Program Total:	\$350,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.	

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
Burrilville	Metech Mill	\$100,000
Central Falls	Spintex Mill, 1461 High Street	\$28,183
Providence	485 Plainfield Street	\$100,000
	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:		\$514,217*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.		

STATE & TRIBAL 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 & Tribal Brownfields Funding		
Recipient	Year	Funding
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	Pre-Law	\$1,115,906
	2003	\$861,029
	2004	\$878,425
	2005	\$912,500
	2006	\$1,185,519
	2007	\$1,197,474
	2008	\$1,195,519
	2009	\$1,136,200
State & Tribal Program Total:		\$8,482,572*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.		
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	

Recipient	Site
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 Sponging 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
Providence / State of Rhode Island	\$300,000
Showcase Communities Total:	\$300,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2009.	

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Visit: www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields