

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

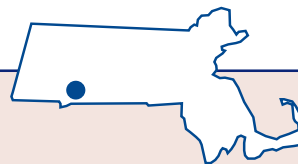
Holyoke, MA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development 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 the Brownfields 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 Holyoke was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. This city of 39,838 residents is heavily dependent on manufacturing, which provides jobs for 23 percent of the city's workforce. Because this level represents a decline in manufacturing jobs, the city hopes to redevelop former manufacturing sites to maintain new opportunities in Holyoke's industrial core. Within that urban core, more than 50 percent of residents fall below the poverty line, and the median household income is half the level of the rest of the city. The 1.4-acre former Hallmark Van Lines property in this core has been condemned because of fire damage. It is contaminated with waste oil, lead, asbestos, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.



Cleanup Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Holyoke for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to remove and dispose of contaminants at the former Hallmark Van Lines property on Middle Water Street. Funds also will be used to demolish a building, place brick and concrete as fill, and conduct community outreach 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 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1221
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Holyoke, MA
413-322-5655

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

Cleaning up and redeveloping the property will remove blight and an imminent hazard to the neighborhood, generate tax revenues, provide needed jobs, and improve public health. A paper company has committed to purchasing and building on the site after its cleanup.