

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

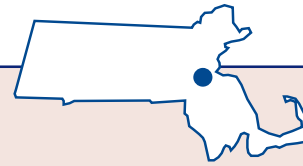
Norfolk County, MA

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

Norfolk County was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. During the 18th and 19th Centuries, the Norfolk region of Massachusetts was a center of industry, home to a variety of mills and factories. The decline in these industries has resulted in an erosion of the industrial and commercial tax base, a decline in manufacturing jobs, and many abandoned and underutilized sites. The targeted communities of Franklin, Wrentham, and Plainville (total population 47,797) are three of Norfolk County's (population 650,308) high-growth towns. From 1990 to 2000, Franklin experienced a 34 percent increase in population, Wrentham experienced a 17 percent increase, and Plainville experienced a 12 percent increase. The



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected Norfolk County for a brownfields assessment grant. Funds will be used to develop an inventory of sites, evaluate and prioritize the sites, perform up to six Phase I and two Phase II site assessments, and conduct community outreach activities pertaining to the redevelopment of the sites in partnership with the towns of Franklin, Plainville, and Wrentham.

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: Norfolk County, MA
781-461-6159

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

residential growth in these towns has surpassed commercial growth and the availability of jobs in the area, exerting stress on the municipalities. Redevelopment of brownfields sites is expected to increase economic development in the region, bringing new businesses and job opportunities to the county and diversifying its tax base. Revitalization of the sites will also help preserve greenspace and protect environmental resources and residents from the potential risks of brownfields.