

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

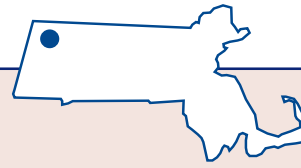
North Adams, MA

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 North Adams was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. North Adams (population 14,491) is a historical mill town along the Hoosic River in the northwestern corner of Massachusetts. With the decline of many industries following World War II and the 1985 closing of one of the city's largest employers, unemployment in the city has increased. Despite a number of encouraging signs, the city is still struggling with its recovery and has been designated a federal Empowerment Zone. It remains below the state's averages in employment, income, and other key economic indicators. More than 58 percent of the city's residents are considered low-income. Cleanup and redevelopment of the former garage site on Union



Cleanup Grant

New
2005

\$104,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of North Adams for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds for the cleanup of the former garage site at 128 Union Street will be used to remove and dispose of contaminated soil and conduct in-situ groundwater treatment. From 1929 to 1983, a portion of the property was used for gasoline sales and automotive services, and is contaminated with volatile organic compounds, lead, mercury, and other metals.

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 North Adams, MA
413-662-3011

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

Street as a memorial park and/or community garden would improve the quality of life for this already established community and serve as a gateway park to the northeastern entrance to the city.