

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

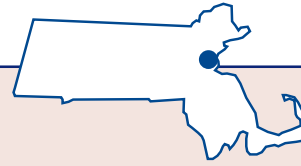
Somerville, MA

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 Somerville was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. This suburb of Boston, with 77,500 residents on 4.2 square miles of land, is one of the most densely populated areas in New England. Approximately 35 percent of its residents speak a language at home other than English, and 12.5 percent live in poverty. In addition to strictly industrial/commercial areas, the community originally was developed in a pattern in which industrial enterprises were surrounded by worker residences. As these enterprises have closed, they have left blighted neighborhoods as well as abandoned commercial areas. Somerville has an ongoing brownfields redevelopment program and has used previous grant money to identify



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Somerville for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used for conducting Phase I and Phase II site assessments, and developing remedial alternatives and cost estimates on parcels identified by the site selection program.

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 Somerville, MA
617-625-6600, ext. 2500

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

approximately 376 contaminated properties. Brownfields redevelopment will increase the city's tax base, address environmental justice issues, and make the city more attractive to workers and residents.