

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

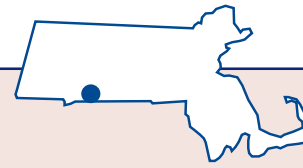
Springfield, MA

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 Springfield was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Springfield, located in southwestern Massachusetts, has a population of 152,000. The two target neighborhoods are East Springfield and the South End. East Springfield (population 6,317) is home to the majority of the city's industrial operations. Fifteen percent of neighborhood residents, many of whom are seniors, live below the poverty level. The seven-acre former Hampden Color and Chemical site is among the largest of the city's 75 brownfields. The city is working with a preferred developer that plans to rehabilitate the 141,000-square-foot industrial building, and maintain the landscaping around the site. Cleanup and redevelopment will create new jobs and help protect wetlands and other ecologi-



Cleanup Grants

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Springfield for two brownfields cleanup grants. Hazardous substances funds will be used to clean up the former Hampden Color and Chemical site in East Springfield. Between 1968 and 1998, the site was used as a solvent recycling facility and as a storage area for hazardous waste. Petroleum funds will be used to clean up contamination at the former Gemini Building in the South End neighborhood of the city. The contamination at this former textile manufacturing site resulted from a release of fuel oil from an underground storage tank. Funds also will be used to conduct community involvement activities for both sites.

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 Springfield, MA
413-787-6020

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

cal resources in the area. A majority of the working residents in the South End neighborhood (population 3,223) were employed at the textile manufacturing site, the Gemini Building, until it closed in the 1980s. Once the plant shut its doors, the economy of the neighborhood bottomed out, and residents left. Today, 50 percent of South End residents live below the poverty level, and the area is plagued with high crime rates and

few employment opportunities. Cleanup of the site is expected to add value to the property, attract a developer, and help stabilize the area with jobs and economic development. Redevelopment is expected to generate tax revenues for the city and eliminate blight that has been attracting crime to the neighborhood.