

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

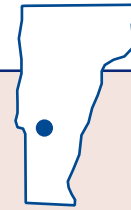
## *Rutland Regional Planning Commission, VT*

### **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 Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. The RRPC is a land use and transportation organization providing planning and organizational support to the 27 towns within the region. The region (population 63,400), which is primarily comprised of rural towns and sub-regional centers surrounding Rutland City, contains 277 identified petroleum sites. The city, the economic and social hub of the county, developed around industrial and manufacturing operations. The sub-regional hubs developed around mining, foundry operations, clothing factories, and textile mills.



### **Assessment Grant**



***\$200,000 for petroleum***

EPA has selected the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct public outreach and involvement activities, develop an inventory of petroleum-contaminated brownfields sites, and perform Phase I, II, and III site assessments at sites scattered throughout the region, with a focus on ten communities with the highest concentration of underground storage tanks.

### **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](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team  
617-918-1221  
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Rutland Regional Planning Commission, VT  
802-775-0871

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

Many of the more rural areas are agricultural. With the decline in industrial activity, once thriving properties were abandoned or downsized, and the population in industrial villages declined, in some cases by as much as 30 percent. At the same time, the populations of the rural towns are increasing. The region has lost 7,000 acres of farmland to development over the past five years. Assessment and redevelopment of brownfields is expected to contribute to the vibrancy of villages, creating new jobs and housing, generating tax revenues for the towns, and restoring a sense of identity and pride in the area.