

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

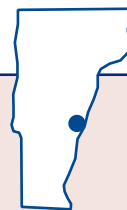
Two Rivers- Ottauquechee Regional Commission, East Central Vermont

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 Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) covers 30 towns in east central Vermont (combined population 55,784). No county government exists in Vermont to help these towns where old machine shops, vacant mills, rail sidings, and other brownfields, are widespread. Every town has one or several brownfields depending on its size, and they often blight town centers. Contamination concerns continue to weigh down local



Assessment Grant

**New
2005**

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to work with relevant communities, the state, and the brownfields steering committee to further inventory and select sites for evaluation. Additional training on brownfields redevelopment also is planned for the Commission staff. The majority of the funds will be used to conduct a total of four to six Phase I, two to four Phase II, and one Phase III site assessments.

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: Two Rivers-Ottauquechee
Regional Commission, VT
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The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

efforts at revitalization. Even communities with solid economic reputations, such as Woodstock, have contaminated sites that are dragging down the entire region's economic engine. Although regional unemployment rates are relatively low, poverty in some towns exceeds 15 percent, and child poverty exceeds 33 percent. Skyrocketing housing prices, characteristic of much of the northeast, are also putting enormous pressures on working families. TRORC's brownfields plans will advance the redevelopment of contaminated properties, some of which may provide low- and moderate-income housing.