



Brownfields 2009 Cleanup Grant Fact Sheet

Georgetown, KY



EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders 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 February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery Act is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, and create or save millions of jobs. This law provided stimulus funds to the Brownfields Program to award grants to evaluate and clean up former industrial and commercial sites. Under this law, EPA will provide financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants.

Community Description

The City of Georgetown was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Georgetown (population 21,704) is located 18 miles north of the City of Lexington in the Blue Grass Region of central Kentucky. Land use in the area varies from small farms and thoroughbred horse operations, to large-scale manufacturing, including a Toyota plant. The downtown areas of the city and their adjacent entry corridors are impacted by the brownfields left behind as residents and businesses chose to develop farmlands. These blighted properties pose a health threat to city residents and the city's primary source of water, the Royal Springs Aquifer. Many of the sites are located in the city's predominantly minority neighborhoods, where a large percentage of residents live below the poverty level. Cleanup of the Empire Pencil site will allow the city to move forward with its plans to build a state-of-the-art law enforcement campus on the property.

Cleanup Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances (Recovery Act Funding)

EPA has selected the City of Georgetown for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the former Empire Pencil Factory at 550 Bourbon Street. The site operated as a pencil factory from 1946 until the mid-1990s, and is contaminated with heavy metals and volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities.

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 (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team
(404) 562-8792
EPA Region 4 Brownfields Web site
(<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf>)

Grant Recipient: City of Georgetown, Kentucky
(502) 863-9855

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.