THE KENTUCKY BROWNFIELD PROGRAM

KENTUCKY BROWNFIELD UPDATE

THE GROWING SMART AND BUILDING GREEN ISSUE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2007

From Brown to Green: Green Construction on Your Brownfield Site

Lincoln Hall at Berea College is Kentucky's first LEED certified building.

Buildings have traditionally been a static part of the economy. They were always built in the same manner and little attention was paid to how much energy the building was using. Times are changing, energy prices are rising and green building practices are the new trend in the development community. Green buildings use resources such as water, energy, land and building materials more efficiently than their counterparts that are simply built to code. Brownfields may present an opportunity for many communities to incorporate green building practices into their planning. Many of these properties have to be demolished or retrofitted. Why not consider green elements or an entirely green building for a site?

With increased levels of natural light and improved air quality, those who occupy buildings built with green construction principles often experience improved health, comfort and productivity. Most people spend about 90 percent of their time indoors and typically concentrations of pollution are higher indoors than out. Pollution levels can range between 10-100 times greater indoors according to the U.S. EPA.

There are also cost savings from reduced energy and utility costs, decreased water consumption, decreased waste production and lower operation and maintenance costs. A recent review of LEED (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design) certified buildings conducted by the U.S. Green Building Council revealed that green buildings:

- Are more energy efficient by about 25-30 percent.
- Use less energy during peak consumption periods.
- Are more likely to generate renewable energy on-site.

But there is a cloud that hangs over many green building projects. It is the specter of price. They have been viewed as much pricier than traditional building methods. At first that may have been true, but as green building has become more main stream there have been reductions in building costs over the past few years. Nationally, the average premium for a green building is slightly less than 2 percent. The majority of the increased price is for architectural and engineering design. However, the earlier the green features are Introduced in to the design process, the lower the costs will be. But, the benefits can outweigh many of these costs.

Twenhofel Middle School in northern Kentucky is pursing LEED certification. It has incorporated many green features including daylighting systems, rain catchment systems, solar panels and geothermal heating and cooling.

The Kentucky Brownfield Program

Recycling the Commonwealth

14 Reilly Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(800) 926-8111
(502) 564-0323
www.dca.ky.gov/brownfields

UPCOMING EVENTS

2007 Governor's Local Issues Conference- Louisville, Ky.- Galt House East, Aug. 29-31, 2007

Annual EPA Brownfield Grant Review Party– Frankfort, Ky.- Transportation Cabinet, Sept. 25, 2007.

Sustainable Redevelopment in the Ohio River Valley-Louisville, Ky., Oct. 1-3, 2007. *See Page 4 and 5 for details.*

Governor's Conference on the Environment– Lexington, Ky., Oct. 1-2, 2007.

EPA Brownfield Grant Deadline, Oct. 12, 2007. *See Pages 10 and 11 for EPA grant information.*

NBA Brownfield Conference and Deal Flow Exhibit, Chicago, Ill., Oct. 15-17, 2007.

Brownfields 2008- Detroit Cobo Center, Detroit, Mich., May 5-7, 2008.

For more information on any of these events please call the Kentucky Brownfield Program at 800-926-8111 or check out our Web site at: www.dca.ky.gov/brownfields

Green Living- Green is Good

By: Herb Petitjean

Herb Petitjean takes in the Versailles Farmer's Market via his environmentally friendly form of locomotion. Photo by Carolyn Carter

A common perception is that actions to help the environment always involve sacrifice. "Ashes and sackcloth" are viewed as the appropriate apparel for the environmentalist. But I had the pleasure of hearing a speaker a few years ago who made a powerful argument to the contrary.

The speaker showed a slide of a Christmas card, not unlike many you have undoubtedly received over the years. It was a winter street scene of a small, old-fashioned town. The sidewalks were filled with people doing their holiday shopping. The street was brightly decorated, and a warm glow emanated from each of the stores.

The speaker asked, "Why do we put these types of scenes on our Christmas cards? Why don't we show more typical, contemporary urban scenes, such as shopping malls or suburbs? And, if we really long for this simpler, more people-oriented design, why do we continue building big box stores and traditional suburbs?"

I have had the opportunity to live in older communities where I had options other than driving. By walking, I could better enjoy the beautiful landscaping of the neighbors. And I got to know these neighbors. Mr. Coomer related many fascinating stories of his life as a railroad brakeman. And, Mr. and Mrs. Randall shared with me the mutual respect that was the key to their long and happy marriage. ("I always remember that he is the head of the household." "Yeah, but she is the neck that points me in the direction I am supposed to go.") I would never have had these experiences if I didn't occasionally get out of my four-wheeled, steel cocoon.

The house where I currently live does not provide the same opportunities to do errands on foot, so I am renewing my interest in bicycling. One nice feature of my new hometown is its thriving farmer's market. Instead of buying produce that has traveled hundreds or thousands of miles by boat, plane, train and/or truck, I can purchase local produce. Buying locally conserves energy while providing me with produce that has been harvested just hours ago. Following the recalls of spinach and pet foods, there is something reassuring about getting food direct from the farmer rather than through a long, complicated distribution chain. For these farmers, raising produce is more than a job, it is a passion --- just ask someone who is raising heirloom strains of tomatoes or apples and you will know what I mean. The Saturday market is a wonderful gathering place for the community. And, I enjoy the fact that my purchases help support the local economy and preserve area farmland.

Throughout this quarter's newsletter you will read other examples of environmentally friendly buildings and communities. Some approaches are new but many merely involve rediscovering old approaches. Whatever the case, the resulting designs are not only better for the natural environment, they are also better for the human environment, improving our lives as individuals and the civic life of our communities. ♻

Join us for our 2nd Annual Grant Writing Party

If you are currently considering or are in the process of writing a U.S. EPA Brownfield Grant, the Kentucky Brownfield program wants to let you know of an event that can help you create a winning application. The program will be hosting a grant writing party this fall where those writing applications can bring copies of their documents and have them reviewed by program staff and peers. This provides valuable feedback and strengthens your application. The grant review will be held on **Sept. 25** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Transportation Cabinet (200 Mero St.) in Frankfort. Lunch is not provided. Contact Amanda LeFevre at 800-926-8111 or at amanda.lefevre@ky.gov if you would like to attend.

Brownfields for Bambi:

Ecological enhancements can be a beneficial part of your brownfield remediation

Imagine yourself in a lovely green meadow carpeted with wildflowers, a crystal clear stream running through it, butterflies floating in the wind and abundant sunshine warming your face. It sounds idyllic. Well, it could be a brownfield. Through ecological enhancements, a brownfield can become a place that attracts wildlife instead of genetically mutating it. In all seriousness, ecological enhancements can help improve the habitat for plant and animal life and protect human health and the environment. The enhancements can be part of the end use for a site or can compliment traditional remediation technologies.

Ecological enhancements are probably the most effective when used in concert with conventional remediation methods. The traditional methods are used to remove pollution and return the property to acceptable limits. Even though a site is "clean," it does not necessarily mean that it is back to its prepollution functional level as far as the habitat goes. This is where ecological enhancement comes into play. Techniques that provide in-stream cover for fish following sediment excavation, the installation of nesting boxes on a landfill that has been capped or the creation of a wooded lot will increase the property's capability to attract and sustain wildlife. It is also a crowd pleaser. On sites where a community is heavily involved in the cleanup process, ecological enhancements are beneficial in garnering community support. But what are some of the other benefits?

- **Biodegrades environmental contaminants**- The aerobic and anaerobic biochemical degradation of various contaminants including volatile organic compounds, polynuclear aromatics and various other hydrocarbons can be enhanced by natural remediation technologies.
- **Controls erosion**– Soil erosion and sediment transport can be decreased through natural remediation processes and end use planting.
- **Buffers stream banks**– Keep surface water cleaner using plantings along stream banks that serve as contaminant filters.
- **Reduces greenhouse gases**- Plantings, which utilize atmospheric carbon dioxide, produce oxygen that reduce greenhouse gases and mitigate global warming.
- **Provides educational opportunities**- Students can visit sites and learn about remediation technologies and environmental processes.
- **Reduces costs**– End use plantings and other natural remediation technologies are often price competitive with the traditional cleanup methods and end uses. In more complex remedies, they can be useful in addressing final "polishing" remedy requirements.
- **Provides a use for waste materials**- Waste materials such as sewage sludge, fly ash, manure and yard wastes can be used as a soil amendment for plantings and other natural remediation techniques.
- **Attracts customers and gains a competitive advantage**- Good aesthetics can often attract customers, and a company can emphasize its environmental stewardship to environmentally conscious customers.

For more information on ecological enhancements got to: http://www.wildlifehc.org/brownfield_restoration/Technical_Info.cfm

Conference registration is now open for EPA's

SUSTAINABLE REDEVELOPMENT IN THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY

Oct. 1-3, 2007, Louisville, Ky.

Sustainable redevelopment can lead to long-term benefits to the environment, public health and the quality of life of the surrounding community.

Join us for an exciting three-day conference focused on creating more environmentally, socially and economically vibrant places through redevelopment! On the afternoon of the first day, you'll tour the Greater Louisville and Southern Indiana areas and see redevelopment projects first hand. On the second day, hear from nationally recognized speakers about sustainable redevelopment case studies, collaboration for better results and explore the storm water, air quality and public health benefits of sustainable redevelopment. On the third day, participate in a dynamic learning charrette and apply the lessons from the conference to brainstorm ways to sustainably redevelop local sites. The day-three afternoon session will feature methods for overcoming barriers, tools to assist communities and the economics of sustainable development practices. You will also have an opportunity to participate in a Public Health Roundtable on the to-be-released Public Health and Brownfields Community Training Program.

Who Should Attend? Work force development boards, local governments, public health agencies, port authorities, developers, consultants, community groups, architects, urban planners, landscape architects, land trusts, community development organizations, nonprofit organizations, engineers, ecosystem and watershed protection groups, water management and public works organizations, air pollution control districts and anyone else interested in learning more about innovative ways to improve our environment and communities through redevelopment.

Visit the conference Web site at http://www.delta-institute.org/ohiovalleycon/ohiorivervalley.php for more information or contact Karen Bandhauer, U.S. EPA, at 404-562-9122 or via e-mail at bandhauer.karen@epa.gov.

Sustainable Redevelopment in the Ohio River Valley
Program-At-A-Glance

Sustainable Redevelopment can lead to long-term benefits to the environment, public health and the quality of life of the surrounding community.

Oct. 1, 2007

1:00 p.m. Half-Day Tour of Louisville Area
Take a bus tour of sustainable projects and charrette sites ($50 fee)

5:30 p.m. Walking Tour
(free for conference participants)

Oct. 2, 2007

8:00 a.m. Registration and Coffee
Plenary Sessions –

8:30 a.m. Welcome

9:00 a.m. Keynote Presentations
These inspirational talks will set the stage for the conference. Topics will include the value of redevelopment and infill, protecting and restoring natural systems through redevelopment and using redevelopment approaches to create better community outcomes.

Breakout Sessions –
11:00 a.m. Case Studies of Sustainable Redevelopment
Learn about on-the-ground examples of sustainable redevelopment projects at cleanup sites. Depending on your interests or community size, you'll be able to hear from urban, small town and rural perspectives.

12:05 p.m. Lunch Provided and Guest Speaker
Breakout Sessions Continued –

1:10 p.m. Collaboration for Better Results
Panel Titles: Cross Border Collaboration: Spanning the Ohio River for Sustainable Redevelopment; Integrative Design and Green Engineering; Urban Approaches to Sustainable Redevelopment: Analysis of the Park Hill Corridor in Louisville, Ky. and Small Town Approach to Sustainable Redevelopment: The Story of Stella, MO.

2:30 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Panels
Explore how sustainable redevelopment can create a positive impact on: air quality, urban heat island effect and climate change, watershed protection, habitat and ecosystem function; public health; storm water management, disadvantaged communities and livability.

5:15 p.m. Adjourn

Oct. 3, 2007

7:30 a.m. Coffee and Networking

8:00 a.m. Welcome and Update on Partnerships
Plenary Session –

8:15 a.m. Introduction to the Charrette
Explore the tools and techniques that can be used to sustainably redevelop a site. There will be an emphasis on integrative design.

9:10 a.m. Charrette Exercise
Attendees can choose from three to four brownfield sites that represent a range of conditions and types of sites that are commonly found in urban, small town and rural communities across the country.

11:45 a.m. Report-out from Charrettes

12:30 p.m. Lunch Provided and Demonstration of SMARTe Tool
Plenary Sessions –

1:30 p.m. Overcoming Barriers to Sustainable Development at Cleanup Sites
Learn about approaches that can be used to overcome political, public perception and information barriers.

2:15 p.m. Tools to Assist Communities
Join the panel for a discussion of model codes and ordinances, resources and Grants with examples of local incentives to encourage green development.

3:15 p.m. The Economics of Sustainable Development Practices
The economic impact of brownfield redevelopment, discussion of financing tools available and resources for funding your project.

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

1:30 – 5:15 p.m. Special Session: General Public is Invited
The Public Health Roundtable will provide a of the forthcoming Public Health and Brownfields Community Guidebook

SMART GROWTH FOR KENTUCKY'S COMMUNITIES

Smart growth is starting to become a hot topic in Kentucky. While many think it is only an issue for large cities, Kentucky's small towns should also look at including smart growth principles into their planning. There are 10 generally accepted principles of smart growth according to the Smart Growth Network, a partnership of public, private and nongovernmental agencies (www.smartgrowth.org) across the U.S.

1. **Mixed land uses**– Cities can combine residential, commercial, recreational, educational areas to create a vibrant thriving community where services are easily accessible by foot.
2. **Take advantage of compact building design**- Combine residential and commercial spaces into one building to decrease building footprints. Compact building practices create a convenient neighborhood center and at the same time provide more open land to absorb rainwater, which reduces flooding and stormwater drainage needs. These areas also require fewer linear feet of utility lines– like water, sewer, electricity, phone services and others- than dispersed communities.
3. **Create a range of housing opportunities and choices**- This is an important topic for America's aging population. While single-family detached houses were once the gold standard, many of America's elderly will not care for large yards and commutes to basic services. Housing that provides better walkability, access to public transit systems, proximity to civic areas and smaller housing units in familiar neighborhoods can help communities achieve smart growth and create more options for its citizens.
4. **Create walkable neighborhoods**– Communities that are designed and built so that walking is a viable transportation option improve access to services for populations that are too old, too young or too poor to drive. They also provide environmental benefits by improving air quality and reducing the amount of land covered by impervious surfaces therefore decreasing stormwater issues.
5. **Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place**- In the era of strip malls and massive residential development, there is very little variation out there. While the cookie cutter method may be profitable for developers, it does not necessarily contribute to civic pride or create a sense of community. High-quality communities with interesting architectural elements that reflect the flavor and interests of the residence often retain their value and economic vitality over the long run.
6. **Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas**- Open spaces can support local economies, conserve habitats, provide recreational opportunities for citizens and improve the general quality of life for surrounding communities. Preserving open spaces can increase property values thereby increasing tax revenues, provide ecotourism dollars and reduce the amount of costly infrastructure a community has to provide. It also ensures that valuable farm land remains productive.
7. **Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities**- Post World War II cities began to spread out from their urban core and it has resulted in the disinvestment in those areas. By redeveloping these areas, cities can take advantage of existing infrastructure, increase their tax bases, reduce development pressure on greenfields, preserve farmland and create jobs that are in close proximity to the community's residents.
8. **Provide a variety of transportation choices-** If you've ever been stuck in traffic, mass transit doesn't sound like such a bad idea. Many of our nation's cities have seen their traffic infrastructure totally overwhelmed. A city that does not have mass transit systems in place suffers from an onslaught of commuter traffic from the burbs. This only escalates as many more move out of town. By providing places to live inside the city, communities can often justify more transit options and cut down on traffic congestion.
9. **Make development decisions predictable, fair and cost effective**- Governments can strive to create a regulatory environment that is supportive of compact, pedestrian friendly, mixed use projects. It is also crucial to create an attractive investment climate that will attract private sector participation.
10. **Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions**- When considering redevelopment of an area it is a good idea to get early input from multiple stakeholders. Each stakholder can bring a different perspective to the table and in the end this strategy can help local leaders identify and support development that meets the needs of a community. ♲

These 10 principles are further detailed in Getting to Smart Growth: 100 Principles for Implementation. See Page 7 for more info.

Smart Growth and Green Building Information Resources

Getting to Smart Growth: 100 Policies for Implementation www.smartgrowth.org/pdf/gettosg.pdf

The U.S. EPA's Smart Growth Network www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_network.htm

ASTM Standard Guide for Process of Sustainable Brownfield Redevelopment
www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/DATABASE.CART/REDLINE_PAGES/E1984.htm?E+mystore

Sustainable Management Approaches and Revitilization Tools– electronic (SMARTe) www.smarte.com

U.S. EPA's Green Building Information www.epa.gov/greenbuilding/

U.S. EPA's Green Building on Brownfields www.epa.gov/brownfields/html-doc/greenbld.htm

U.S. Green Building Council (check out their green building links) www.usbgc.org

U.S. EPA and DOE Energy Star Program www.energystar.gov

Building Green Inc. www.buildinggreen.com

Writing a Brownfield Grant?

Check out last years grant writing issue of the Kentucky Brownfield Update. It has resources and information that can help you in your quest for EPA funding. The November 2006 issue can be found under the forms tab at www.dca.ky.gov/brownfields.

If you are writing an EPA brownfield grant, remember that you will need a letter of endorsement from the Brownfield Program in order to complete your application. Call us at (800) 926-8111.

Governor's Conference on the Environment
Oct. 1-2, 2007

ENERGY KY
for Kentucky's Unbridled Future

The Governor's Conference on the Environment will be held Oct. 1-2, 2007, in Lexington. This year's theme is energy, which coincides with the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet's theme for Earth Week. Additional information will be available later this summer on the conference Web site at http://www.eppc.ky.gov/events/govconference/ For more information, contact Natalie Jensen at 502-564-2150 or via e-mail at natlaieE.jensen@uky.edu.

Green Communities Announces Green Grants

Green Communities offers grants to help cover the costs of planning and implementing green components of affordable housing developments, as well as tracking their costs and benefits. In the first year alone, Enterprise awarded $1.9 million in grants to 49 affordable housing developers, an amazing response to the Green Communities offer of funding.

Planning and Construction Grants

An applicant may apply for both planning and construction grant funds.

The National Funding Round is now open. Applications are due on Aug. 31, 2007.

Planning funds may be used to:

- Cover expenses related to the integrated design process including the additional costs of architectural work, charrette, engineering, site surveys, analysis of energy use and environmental reviews.

Construction funds may be used for:

- Costs related to green construction items, such as more efficient HVAC systems, green materials, energy efficient appliances, etc.
- Costs related to architect's certification that Green Communities criteria have been met, as well as costs of any other third-party assistance in certifying a development.
- Costs of tracking the incremental cost (if any, and not to exceed $3,000) of implementing individual items in the criteria; this tracking will be required.
- Third-party costs of establishing systems and tools for property management and resident education, to maximize the benefits of the green measures once the property is operating.

For more information visit their Web site at: http://www.greencommunitiesonline.org/about-essentials-grants.asp

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The purpose of the HOPE VI Main Street program is to provide grants to small communities to assist in the rejuvenation of an historic or traditional central business district or ''Main Street'' area by replacing unused commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. Eligible applicants include, and are limited to, local governments, as defined in Section I.D of this NOFA and Section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302). The local government must:

1. Have a population of 50,000 or less; and
2. Not be served by a local government, county/parish or regional or state public housing agency (PHA) that administers more than 100 public housing units within the local government's jurisdiction. Such units exclude Section 8 housing voucher subsidized units and public housing units in mixed-finance developments where the public housing agency is not the general partner in the for-profit ownership entity.

Closing Date: Aug. 29, 2007

see www.grants.gov for details

Grant Workshop Seeks to Continue Brownfield Grant Success

Last year the Kentucky Brownfield program sponsored events that aided communities in their quest for U.S. EPA brownfield grants. Those efforts paid off, and the state received $1.4 million dollars in EPA grants for brownfield projects in Louisville and Frankfort.

The program is continuing its educational endeavors this year with the aid of KY EXCEL member, Malcolm Pirnie. KY EXCEL is an environmental leadership program in which individuals, companies and organizations undertake projects to help improve Kentucky's environment. Malcolm Pirnie partnered with the Kentucky Brownfield Program to host three grant writing workshops across the state. Frankfort, Owensboro and Prestonsburg all played host to the events and over 50 people attended the sessions that covered brownfield basics and strategies for successful grant authorship.

Betsy Bowe of Malcolm Pirnie goes over the elements required of a successful brownfield grant. Malcolm Pirnie conducted this workshop as part of their KY EXCEL membership pledge to aid brownfield redevelopment in Kentucky.

Betsy Bowe of Malcolm Pirnie Inc., taught the grant writing portion of the event. Malcolm Pirnie has helped to author and implement over 25 U.S. EPA brownfield grants for communities nationwide. Bowe has extensive grant writing experience in the U.S. EPA program and helped to author $2.0 million in grants for applicants in the 2006 grant round for the communities of Lorain, Barberton and Sandusky, Ohio and Tuscola County and Eaton County, Michigan. Each community received $400,000 in federal funding from the program for brownfields assessment. "Our overall goal of the workshop was to provide potential grant applicants with all of the tools they might need to author a grant from start to finish. We offered examples from various grant applications - from a small rural community to a large industrial community- to help applicants see that answering the questions and obtaining as many points as possible in a very competitive process is achievable no matter the size of their community or their previous grant writing experiences," said Bowe. "We are hopeful that many of the workshop attendees will want to apply for grant funds to start brownfield programs in their communities."

Kentucky will once again be hosting a brownfield grant writing party for those who are submitting a U.S. EPA brownfield grant. The event, which will be held later this fall, allows grant writers to bring copies of their grants to be read and critiqued by peers. As soon as guidance is announced the party will be scheduled. Watch the Kentucky Brownfield Program Web site for details or call Amanda LeFevre at 800-926-8111.

2008 Photo-Essay Competition

RESTORE-REUSE-RECYCLE

To celebrate Preservation Month in May 2008, the Kentucky Heritage Council and Preservation Kentucky Inc. are pleased to announce Restore-Reuse-Recycle: Photo-Essay Competition for all Kentucky school students. The Kentucky Heritage Council and Preservation Kentucky hope that the photo-essay competition will stimulate young people's interest in historic preservation and will provide an opportunity for students to interact with their local decision-makers (mayors, city council/commission members, county judge/executives, magistrates, etc.) regarding the importance of historic preservation. As part of the competition, students are required to submit a copy of their essay to at least one local decision-maker in addition to judges. Photo-essay winners will receive cash awards and other prizes, and all competition participants will receive a certificate of recognition. Photo-essay winners will present their winning essays and photographs and will be recognized at a celebration in May 2008.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR KENTUCKY TO ASSESS AND CLEAN UP CONTAMINATED LANDS: EPA BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

EPA will be announcing over $70 million in funding available for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup grants to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields.

- This year's grant deadline is October 12, 2007 -

EPA Region 4 will be hosting interactive online grant writing workshops on Aug 22 and Sept 13
To register, please visit: http://www.cluin.org/conf/tio/r4bfgrantwriting/

What is EPA's Brownfields Program?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. Brownfields grants serve as the foundation of the Brownfields Program and support revitalization efforts by funding environmental assessment and cleanup. Thousands of properties have been assessed and cleaned up through the Brownfields Program, clearing the way for their reuse.

Who is Eligible to Apply for an EPA Brownfields Grant?

Eligible entities include: state, local, and tribal governments, general purpose units of local government, land clearance authorities, or other quasi-governmental entities; regional council or redevelopment agencies; or states or legislatures. Non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for Cleanup grants.

How Do I Apply for an EPA Brownfields Grant?

Applicants submit a proposal for each grant type that they are applying for. Each proposal must address the selection criteria outlined in the guidelines. Electronic copies of the Proposal Guidelines will be available from the EPA Brownfields Web site at:
http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm

When is the Grant Proposal Deadline?

The proposal due date for 2007 Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup grant proposals is October 12, 2007. EPA's Brownfields Web site will soon have proposal application and announcement information available at:
http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm

A **brownfield** is defined as: 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. The 2002 Brownfields Law expanded the definition to include sites contaminated by petroleum and mine-scarred lands.

In **Louisville, Kentucky**, the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage will be established in the city's historic trolley barns. Because of its history, the trolley barn property was once thought to be unusable because of prohibitive cleanup costs associated with the property's perceived contamination. A $200,000 EPA Brownfields Assessment grant helped conduct an environmental assessment of the property which revealed the extent of contamination was less than previously estimated. The new Center's 40,000 square-foot main barn will house the primary exhibit hall.

More detailed information on brownfields success stories in EPA Region 4 can be found at:
http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/sslocat.htm#reg4

What Types of Grants Does EPA Provide?

Assessment Grants:

- EPA provides funding for a grant recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites.
- An eligible entity may apply for up to $200,000 to assess a specific site or conduct a community-wide assessment that includes more than one site within the community. Applicants may also request up to $350,000 based on the anticipated level of contamination at a single site.
- The performance period for Assessment grants is three years.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants:

- EPA provides funding to capitalize a revolving loan fund that provides sub-grants to carry out assessment and/or cleanup activities at brownfields. RLF grants are community-wide and not site specific.
- An eligible entity may apply for up to $1,000,000. The applicant can be a single recipient or a coalition of eligible entities. RLF grants require a 20 percent cost share, which may be in the form of a contribution of money, labor, material, or services that are allowable costs.
- The performance period for RLF grants is five years.

Cleanup Grants:

- EPA provides funding for a grant recipient to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.
- An eligible entity may apply for up to $200,000 per site. Cleanup grants require a 20 percent cost share, which may be in the form of a contribution of money, labor, material, or services that are allowable costs. A cleanup grant applicant may request a waiver of the 20 percent cost share requirement based on hardship.
- An applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding at time of application or demonstrate the ability to acquire title.
- The performance period for Cleanup grants is three years.

Job Training Grants:

The deadline for Job Training grants is September 28, 2007. *Guidelines are available at: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm*

- These grants provide up to $200,000 for environmental skills training to residents of communities affected by brownfields.

Need Help Writing a Grant?

EPA Region 4 can respond to questions from applicants about threshold criteria, including site eligibility and ownership, but can not meet with applicants to discuss draft proposals or provide assistance in responding to ranking criteria. **EPA Region 4 will be conducting online interactive grant writing workshops on August 22 and September 13, 2007 at 10 AM EST. For more information and to register, please visit: http://www.cluin.org/conf/tio/r4bfgrantwriting/** The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection, your Area Development District office and the Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB) program can also provide more specific support, including grant writing assistance, in developing your proposal. For assistance, please contact:

Contact Information:

EPA Region 4
Kathleen Curry
404-562-8660
curry.kathleen@epa.gov
http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf

Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection
Herb Petitjean
502-564-0323
herb.petitjean@ky.gov
http://www.dep.ky.gov

Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts
http://www.kycadd.org

Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) Program
Robert D. Schmitter, J.D.
404-407-8064
Bob.Schmitter@gtri.gatech.edu
http://www.toscprogram.org/tab-overview.html

What is the Evaluation/Selection Process?

Brownfields grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Evaluation panels consisting of EPA staff and other federal agency representatives assess how well the proposals meet the threshold and ranking criteria outlined in the Proposal Guidelines. Final selections are made by EPA senior management after considering the ranking of proposals by the evaluation panels. Responses to threshold criteria are evaluated on a pass/fail basis. If the proposal does not meet the threshold criteria, the proposal will not be evaluated. In some circumstances, EPA may seek additional information.