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Issue: 1

Brownfields Bulletin



Welcome to Stanley Consultants' Brownfields Bulletin

In today's unstable economy, redevelopment projects can be overshadowed by more immediate infrastructure needs. Now, more than ever, grants are taking a lead role in securing necessary funds to implement vital redevelopment plans.

Applying for Grants

Applying for grants doesn't have to be a daunting endeavor but it does take time to ensure the T's are crossed and the I's are dotted. Attention to detail pays off when the project wins.

A multitude of available programs can help municipalities, states, non-profits, educational institutions and in some cases even private entities fund the redevelopment of "brownfield" properties. Brownfields are "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" (EPA 2002) and can include old gas stations, abandoned commercial properties and old industrial sites. While you may not recognize it when you have a brownfield "problem" these can often be used to initiate a larger municipal or economic development project. Many advantages can be linked to brownfields redevelopment as opposed to "greenfield" development. Redevelopment of brownfield sites utilizes existing infrastructure, reduces urban sprawl, revitalizes the urban core with the addition of new jobs and economic activity, encourages "green" transportation such as biking and walking, and leads to a boost to the overall tax base for the area.

EPA offers the Brownfields Redevelopment Grant Program to states, municipalities, and in certain cases, colleges, non-profits and private owners. The five types of assistance within the EPA program are the CARE, Assessment, Cleanup, Revolving Loan Fund and Job Training Grants.

Care Program

EPA Headquarters is currently accepting proposals to support community-based partnerships to reduce pollution at the local level. About \$3 million will be available nationally in 2008. Proposals are due to EPA



In This Issue

[Applying for Grants](#)

[Care Program](#)

[State Voluntary Cleanup](#)

[State Voluntary Cleanup Programs](#)



Most states have voluntary cleanup programs for contaminated sites and may offer funding assistance for voluntary cleanup. Participation in a state program can assist in the leveraging of EPA Cleanup funds.

Conversely, using EPA funds to assess properties can identify sites which would benefit from enrollment in a state voluntary cleanup program

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Stanley Consultants

The Stanley Consultants environmental team includes engineers, environmental scientists, and planners actively engaged in brownfield redevelopment projects

Headquarters by **March 17, 2008**. EPA will conduct three conference calls on **Feb. 27, 2008**, for prospective applicants to ask questions about the application process. CARE is a competitive grant program that offers an innovative way for communities to organize and take action to reduce toxic pollution in their air, land and water.

The following entities are eligible to apply:

- Local, public nonprofit institutions and organizations
- Federally recognized Indian tribal governments
- Native American organizations
- Private nonprofit institutions and organizations
- Colleges and universities
- Quasi-public nonprofit institutions and organizations (both interstate and intrastate)

The 2008 Request for applications can be found at www.epa.gov/care. In 2007, \$3.4 million in cooperative agreements were made available to more than 20 communities through the CARE program.

EPA Assessment Grants

EPA Assessment Grants provide funding for a grant recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct cleanup and redevelopment planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites.

EPA Cleanup

EPA Cleanup grants provide funding for a grant recipient to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.

EPA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

EPA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grants provide funding for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving loan fund and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.

EPA Job Training

EPA Job Training grants are available to fund eligible entities and non-profit organizations to provide environmental job training projects that will facilitate the assessment, remediation, or preparation of brownfield sites.

Applications for EPA Assessment, Cleanup, Revolving Loan Fund, and Job Training Grants are generally due in the fall with award announcement in spring the following year.

If you would like more information on brownfield redevelopment funding opportunities, or grant writing please contact Cynthia Quast, P.E., Brownfields Redevelopment Department Manager at quastcindy@stanleygroup.com or 319.626.5316.



More information on these and other brownfields grant programs is available on the web at www.epa.gov/brownfields.

If you want to see and hear more, attend the 2008 National Brownfields Conference held this year at the Cobo Convention Center in Detroit, MI on May

across the country. Many brownfield properties offer a higher potential for successful redevelopment due to their location in already developed areas with existing utilities and access to established amenities. Contact Stanley Consultants today to find out how you can be part of these opportunities for growth.



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5 - 7, 2008. We'll see you there!

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