



Brownfields 2006 Assessment Grant Fact Sheet

Chattanooga, TN

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 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 City of Chattanooga was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in southeastern Tennessee, Chattanooga (population 155,554) plans to conduct community-wide brownfields assessments in the 3.7-square-mile Alton Park redevelopment area, which lies within Chattanooga's federally designated Renewal Community. The target area was once home to foundries, tanneries, brick kilns, glass container manufacturers, and textile mills that made the city a thriving manufacturing hub. As industry declined, vacated properties throughout the target area and the Chattanooga Creek were used as dumping sites. Since 1980, the population of the area has declined by more than 38 percent. Approximately 97 percent of Alton Park residents are African-American. The poverty and unemployment rates are 54 and 23 percent, respectively. Approximately 46 percent of residents over the age of 25 are not high school graduates. There are at least 28 possible brownfields sites totaling more than 76 acres scattered throughout the area. Assessment and eventual cleanup of the Alton Park brownfields sites will clear the way for the remaining strategic elements of the community's master plan, which includes the development of infill housing and commercial establishments, and the expansion of open space and recreational areas that will improve the

Assessment Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Chattanooga for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory brownfields sites, perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments, facilitate community involvement activities, and develop cleanup and redevelopment plans for sites in the Alton Park redevelopment area.

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 Chattanooga, TN
(423) 757-5216

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.

quality of life for area residents.