



Brownfields 2009 Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund 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. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this 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 cleanup grant and a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Chattanooga (population 155,554) is located in southeast Tennessee. Textile mills, foundries, and chemical plants once thrived in its urban core. A long decline in the manufacturing sector has resulted in the economic decline of the city's urban core. Vacant properties have been used as uncontrolled dumping sites, and many residents have moved to the suburbs. Today, there are about 2,300 acres of brownfields in the urban core target area. About 1,165 of these acres are in Alton Park, where the cleanup site is located. Seventy-one percent of urban core residents are minorities, and the poverty rate in the Alton Park area is 55 percent. Cleanup of the target site is expected to help remove a significant health threat to residents living near the site. A developer has committed to purchasing parcels of the site, once they are cleaned up, for reuse as office space or for light manufacturing. Cleanups conducted through the revolving loan fund grant are expected to help leverage additional resources for redevelopment and revitalization of the city's urban core.

Cleanup Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Chattanooga for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the former Anchor Glass Office site on the 400 block of West 45th Street. This abandoned 2.5-acre site has housed a glass manufacturer and a dry cleaner. Contaminants of concern include arsenic, benzo(a)pyrene, and naphthalene. Grant funds also will be used to support community involvement activities.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

\$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Chattanooga for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which the City of Chattanooga will provide loans to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with hazardous substances in urban core areas. Grant funds also will be used to market the fund and support community involvement 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 Chattanooga, TN
(423) 424-4231

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.