



# Brownfields in Vermont

## June 2011

*“The term ‘brownfield site’ means 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.” (from the federal Brownfields Act of 2002)*

### **SUMMARY OF BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM**

Originally begun as an EPA initiative in January 1995, the US EPA National Brownfields Program has since evolved into a collaborative effort involving many federal, state and local partners. In January 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (“the Brownfields law”) was signed. This law expanded potential federal assistance for Brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, and job training. The law also includes provisions to establish and enhance state and tribal response programs, which will continue to play a critical role in the successful cleanup and revitalization of brownfields. Below is a summary of the US EPA Region1 funding for each of the key Brownfields initiatives.

EPA Brownfields Funding in New England: Program Distribution by State (1994-2011)*							
Program	CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	Total
Assessment Grants	\$12,348,630	\$8,459,017	\$24,620,131	\$7,164,000	\$3,103,000	\$11,466,000	<b>\$67,160,778</b>
Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants	\$15,229,645	\$11,918,355	\$19,068,000	\$7,701,790	\$5,690,000	\$5,400,000	<b>\$65,007,790</b>
Cleanup Grants	\$9,950,000	\$5,650,744	\$14,294,933	\$3,400,000	\$5,200,000	\$800,000	<b>\$39,295,677</b>
Job Training Grants	\$2,140,264	\$200,000	\$2,538,799	\$0	\$550,000	\$0	<b>\$5,429,063</b>
EPA Targeted Assessments (TBA)	\$2,677,470	\$726,339	\$5,038,869	\$398,926	\$579,217	\$366,621	<b>\$9,787,442</b>
State & Tribal Funding	\$10,638,993	\$10,624,117	\$14,920,489	\$12,277,097	\$10,586,497	\$5,909,027	<b>\$64,956,220</b>
Showcase Communities	\$300,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	<b>\$1,400,000</b>
2009 Recovery Act	\$3,095,033	\$2,510,000	\$4,485,000	\$2,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,602,000	<b>\$15,092,033</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,380,035</b>	<b>\$40,088,572</b>	<b>\$85,766,221</b>	<b>\$33,141,813</b>	<b>\$27,208,714</b>	<b>\$25,543,648</b>	<b>\$268,129,003</b>

\*Funding totals current as of June 2011

### **ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, and local governments are eligible to apply for funding to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 to address sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum) and \$200,000 to address sites contaminated by petroleum. Coalitions of three or more eligible entities may apply for up to \$1,000,000 and must assess a minimum of five sites. A community-wide proposal is one in which sites are not specifically identified. The performance period of these grants is three years and recipients are selected through an annual national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Assessment Grants awarded in Vermont since 1994.

<b>Assessment Grant Program</b>			
<b>Recipient</b>	<b>2009 Recovery Act Funding</b>	<b>Regular Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Addison County Regional Planning Commission		\$400,000	\$400,000
Bennington County Regional Commission		\$756,000	\$756,000
Burlington		\$900,000	\$900,000
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission		\$600,000	\$600,000
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission		\$800,000	\$800,000
Lamoille County Planning Commission		\$600,000	\$600,000
Northeastern Vermont Development Association		\$400,000	\$400,000
Northwest Regional Planning Commission		\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Rutland		\$200,000	\$200,000
Rutland Regional Planning Commission		\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
St. Johnsbury		\$200,000	\$200,000
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission		\$1,460,000	\$1,460,000
Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission		\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Windham Regional Commission	\$400,000	\$1,350,000	\$1,750,000
<b>Assessment Grant Program Totals:</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$11,466,000</b>	<b>\$11,866,000</b>
Funding totals current as of June 2011.			

### **REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, and local governments are eligible to apply for funding to capitalize a revolving loan fund (RLF) and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields sites. Applicants may apply for \$1,000,000 to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances. Two or more eligible entities may team together to form a coalition to pool their revolving loan funds. Revolving loan funds generally are used to provide no-interest or low-interest loans for brownfields cleanups. An RLF grant recipient may also use up to 50% of the funds to provide subgrants to other eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, for brownfields cleanups on sites owned by the subgrantee. A grant recipient cannot subgrant to itself. An RLF grant requires a 20% cost share. The performance period of these grants is five years and recipients are selected through an annual national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Revolving Loan Fund Grants awarded in Vermont since 1994.

Revolving Loan Fund Program			
Recipient	2009 Recovery Act Funding	Regular Funding	Total Funding
Northwest Regional Planning Commission		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission	\$590,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,990,000
Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development	\$612,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,612,000
Windham Regional Commission		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
<b>Revolving Loan Fund Program Totals:</b>	<b>\$1,202,000</b>	<b>\$5,400,000</b>	<b>\$6,602,000</b>
Funding totals current as of June 2011.			

### **CLEANUP GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, local governments and nonprofits are eligible to apply for funding to carry out cleanup activities at Brownfields sites that they own. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 per site to address sites contaminated by petroleum and/or hazardous substances. Cleanup grants require a 20% cost share. Eligible applicants must own the site for which it is requesting funding in order to qualify. The performance period of these grants is three years and recipients are selected through an annual national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Cleanup Grants awarded in Vermont since 2003.

Cleanup Grant Program				
Recipient	Site	2009 Recovery Act Funding	Regular Funding	Total Funding
<b>Municipalities</b>				
St. Albans	Former Fonda Container Company, 15 Lower Newton Street		\$200,000	\$200,000
	Former Fonda Container Company, 21 Lower Newton Street		\$200,000	\$200,000
<b>Non-Profit Organizations</b>				
Brattleboro – New England Youth Theatre	Former Tri State Automotive, 64 Elm Street		\$200,000	\$200,000
Rockingham - Bellows Falls Historical Society	Bellows Falls Historic Riverfront Park & Trail System		\$200,000	\$200,000
<b>Cleanup Grant Program Totals:</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>
Funding totals current as of June 2011.				

## **JOB TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM**

State, tribal, local governments and non-profits are eligible to apply for funding to assist residents of communities impacted by Brownfields take advantage of jobs created by the assessment and cleanup of brownfields. Applicants may apply for \$200,000 and must be located within or near a Brownfields Assessment Grant community. The Job Training Grant Program's goals are to prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field and to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances. The performance period of these grants is two years and recipients are selected through an annual national competition.

## **TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENTS (TBA)**

One of EPA's non-grant programs is the Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program. TBAs are conducted by an EPA contractor on behalf of municipalities or non-profits. This is a "grant of services" where an EPA contractor performs the site assessment. The purpose of a TBA is to minimize the uncertainties associated with actual or perceived contamination that complicates the redevelopment of vacant or underutilized properties. The average value of these assessments is \$100,000. There is usually one round of selections per year and applications are accepted at any time. The Brownfields Law expanded the TBA program's eligible sites to also include those contaminated solely by petroleum products. Call Jim Byrne at (617) 918-1389 for more information. Below is a summary of the sites and amount of TBA funding received in Vermont since 1997.

<b>EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments</b>				
<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>2009 Recovery Act Funding</b>	<b>Regular Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Montpelier	Carr Lot, Taylor Street		\$110,317	\$110,317
Rockingham	Bellows Falls Historical Society Property		\$100,000	\$100,000
	TLR Complex, Mill Street		\$56,304	\$56,304
Windsor	28 River St		\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments Totals:</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$366,621</b>	<b>\$366,621</b>
Funding totals current as of June 2011.				

## **STATE & TRIBAL BROWNFIELDS FUNDING**

States and tribes play a significant role in identifying, cleaning up and redeveloping brownfield properties. EPA provides up to \$50 million annually in grants to states and tribes to establish or enhance their response programs that address the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields. States and tribes can use this funding to establish or expand voluntary cleanup programs, perform environmental assessments and cleanups, capitalize a cleanup revolving loan fund, purchase environmental insurance, establish or maintain a public record of sites, oversee cleanups, and to conduct site specific activities. Below is a summary of the amount of funding received in Vermont since 1994.

## State & Tribal Brownfields Funding

### State Funding

Recipient	Year	Funding
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation	Pre-Law	\$326,600
	2003	\$397,030
	2004	\$434,975
	2005	\$345,794
	2006	\$732,144
	2007	\$739,565
	2008	\$742,144
	2009	\$807,500
	2010	\$783,275
	2011	\$600,000
<b>State Program Total:</b>		<b>\$5,909,027</b>

Funding total current as of June 2011.

### State Assessments

Recipient	Site
Barre	10,15,19 & 22 Gable Place
	Twin Cities Sandblasting, 32 Granite Street
Bennington	Jard Chemical Company, Bowen Road
Brattleboro	19 Bennett Drive/Country News
	Delta Campus, Dylan Road
	Tri State Auto, 64 Elm Street
Burlington	151 South Champlain Street
Hartford	34 Prospect Street
Johnson	Vermont Electric Coop, 182 School Street
Ludlow	Jewell Brook Property
Lyndonville	Charles Street
Morrisville	Oxbow Park
North Bennington	BCIC Building Complex
	Vermont Tissue
Pownal	Barlow Gravel Pit, 536 Dean Road
Richford	Sweat Comings
Rockingham	TLR Complex – Bellows Falls Historical Society Property
Shaftsbury	Stanley Tools Site, Eagle Street
Springfield	Jones & Lamson Plant #1, 160 Clinton Street
	PVDC Property, 100 River Street
Thetford	Malmquist Mills, Route 113 & Barker Road
Vergennes	Haviland Shade Roller Mill & Annex, 1-2 Canal Street
Wells River	Adams Paper Mill, 15 Mill Street Route 302
Windsor	Downtown Windsor
	Windsor Gas Light Company, River Street

### State Cleanups

Recipient	Site
Brattleboro	Estey Organ Playground, 108-130 Birge Street
Burlington	Moran Plant, 475 Lake Street
Wells River	Adams Paper Mill, 15 Mill Street Route 302
Windsor	Windsor Welcome Center

## **SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES**

Showcase Communities were selected as national models demonstrating the benefits of collaborative activity on brownfields. These communities are distributed across the country and vary by size, resources, and community type. A wide range of support from federal agencies including tax incentives were leveraged, depending on the needs of each Showcase Community. An important goal of this program was to develop national models that demonstrate the positive results of public and private collaboration to address brownfields challenges. Showcase Communities were selected through a national competition in 1998 & 2000.

## **EPA NEW ENGLAND BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM CONTACTS**

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