

# Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



## Monaca, PA

### 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 clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

### Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program

EPA is piloting an area-wide planning approach to community brownfield challenges, which recognizes that revitalization of the area surrounding the brownfield site(s) is just as critical to the successful reuse of the property as assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of an individual site. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation.

### Pilot Project Description

EPA has selected the Borough of Monaca as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. As one of the founding members of the Ohio River Trail Council, the Borough is working with partner communities and organizations to target four brownfields areas along the 45-mile Ohio River Corridor. The target areas are in the Borough of Monaca (population 6,286), the City of Aliquippa (population 3,760), Borough of Coraopolis (population 6,131), and Borough of Midland (population 3,137). The Corridor traditionally was the industrial heart of southwestern Pennsylvania, specifically for the production of steel. The decline of America's manufactur-

### Pilot Program Description

EPA is awarding approximately \$4 million in total across 23 recipients. Recipients will each receive up to approximately \$175,000 in EPA cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance. Assistance will help recipients initiate development of an area-wide plan and identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan.



### Contacts

For additional information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

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The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the project proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance have not yet been negotiated. Activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

ing industry during the past decades has left many residents without jobs. The four target areas include more than 250 acres of land and 34 brownfields, which are primarily former steel mill-related and small-scale industrial lands. Poverty rates in the targeted Corridor are as high as 21 percent. The Ohio River Trail Council's efforts in planning and community revitalization initiatives along the Ohio River Corridor will be complemented by the area-wide planning process, which will facilitate community involvement in site-specific brownfields cleanup and reuse plans based on environmental conditions and evaluate which sites have potential for new or increased public access to the river through trail connections.