

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



Kansas City, MO

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 City of Kansas City as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. The city is focusing on the Municipal Farm property in the Eastwood Hills neighborhood (population 7,053). The property occupies 327 acres, approximately 30 percent of the neighborhood, and encompasses several municipal institutional sites that have either known or perceived environmental risks. Eastwood Hills has a population, median housing value, and median income that are declining faster than the city as a whole. City staff began meetings and discussions with the Eastwood Hills community about the Municipal

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.

Farm properties and planning for sustainable reuses in 2009. The brownfields area-wide plan will determine the suitability for a community garden in the project area, identify infrastructure and economic development strategies for the brownfields, and determine the types of land use that best meet community needs. Development of the plan is expected to help leverage resources for the assessment, cleanup, and reuse of brownfields, which will provide new jobs and help meet the needs of disadvantaged residents.