

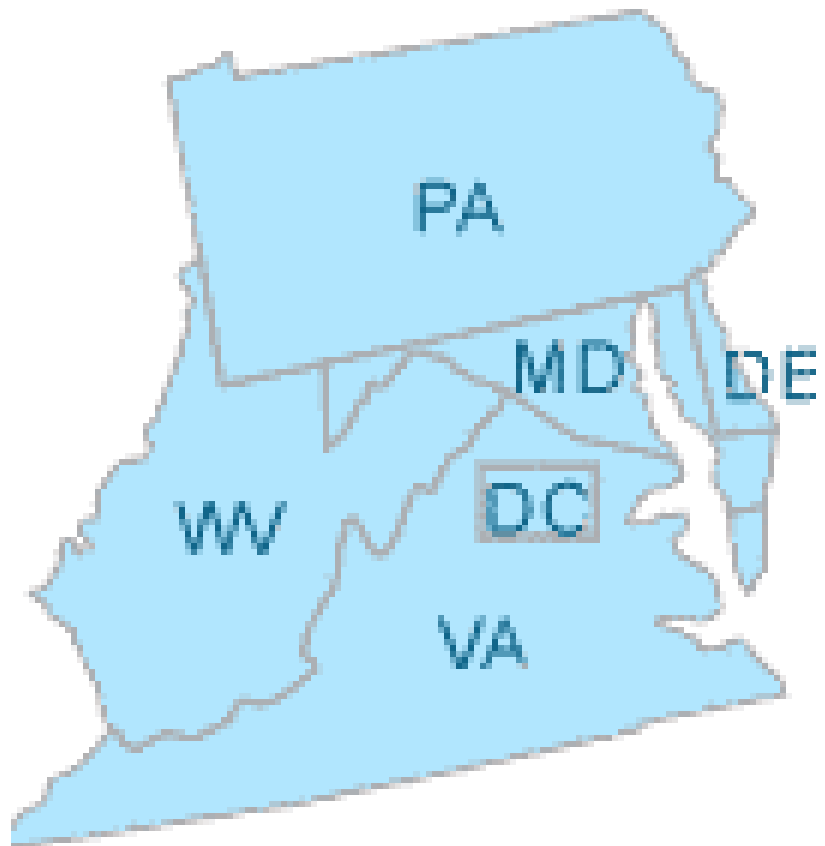
# EPA Brownfield Assistance

November 2021

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US EPA Region III

Brownfield Project  
Manager/MD State Liaison



# EPA Region III Territory

Before



After



Miller's Court  
Baltimore, MD

**Before**



**After**  
(Rendering)



**National Aquarium's Center for  
Aquatic Life and Conservation (CALC)  
Baltimore, MD**

# What is a Brownfield?

- ▶ 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.

# EPA Brownfields Funding Types

## Types of Grant Funding

- ▶ Assessment
- ▶ Revolving Loan Fund
- ▶ Cleanup
- ▶ Multi-purpose
- ▶ Job Training Grants
- ▶ Targeted Brownfield Assessments

# Assessment Grant Competition

- ▶ Provide funding to **plan, inventory, and assess brownfields** contaminated with hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants and petroleum products, conduct community involvement, and cleanup/redevelopment planning.
- ▶ Who is eligible?
  - State, local, and tribal governments
  - General purpose units of local governments
  - Regional councils or redevelopment agencies
  - Quasi-governmental Agencies
  - Non-Profits

# Assessment Grant Competition

- ▶ Community Wide Assessments
  - ▶ \$500,000 maximum total grant for Hazardous/Petroleum funding
- ▶ Site-Specific Assessments
  - ▶ \$200,000 total funding maximum for Hazardous/Petroleum funding per site
  - ▶ Waiver up to \$350,000
    - ▶ Contamination
    - ▶ Size
    - ▶ Ownership status



# Assessment Grant Competition

- ▶ Coalition Assessment - not offered for FY 22
  - ▶ \$600,000 total funding for Hazardous/Petroleum funding per site
  - ▶ Partner with communities that have limited capacity to manage their own brownfields cooperative agreement

# Assessment Grant Competition

- ▶ Planning Activities
  - ▶ Site Reuse Assessment
  - ▶ Market Evaluation
  - ▶ Market Analysis
  - ▶ Infrastructure Evaluation
  - ▶ Land Use Assessment
  - ▶ Site Design/Reuse Vision
  - ▶ Redevelopment Planning
  - ▶ Expression of Interest Process
  - ▶ Development of an Area-Wide Plan

# Cleanup Grant Competition

- ▶ Provide funding for **remediation** of brownfields contaminated with hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants and petroleum products.
- ▶ Who is eligible?  
**Applicants must own the property at time of proposal submission**
  - State, local, and tribal governments
  - General purpose units of local governments
  - Regional councils or redevelopment agencies
  - Quasi-governmental Agencies
  - Non-profit organizations

# Cleanup Grant Competition



\$500,000 maximum per grant proposal, \$650,000 with waiver



One proposal per applicant



One site or multiple sites allowed per proposal



Request only the funds required to remediate



Floodplain projects should describe projected and appropriate reuse as well as partner involvement



Cost share waiver

Non-Profits

Tribes

Local governments < 50k population

# Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants

- ▶ Provide funding to capitalize a revolving loan fund that provides loans and subgrants to carry out **cleanup of brownfield sites** contaminated with hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants and petroleum products.
- ▶ Who is eligible?
  - State, local, and tribal governments
  - General purpose units of local governments
  - Regional councils or redevelopment agencies
- ▶ Funding:
  - Up to \$1,000,000
  - Requires a **20% cost share**
  - Award **~10 RLFs** biennially
  - Provide supplemental funding annually to existing high performing RLFs

## ▶ Mine-Scarred Lands

- ▶ Mine-scarred lands are eligible for brownfields grants funding. EPA's view is that "mine-scarred lands" are those lands, associated waters, and surrounding watersheds where extraction, beneficiation, or processing of ores and minerals (including coal) has occurred.
- ▶ Mine-scarred lands include abandoned coal mines and lands scarred by strip mining.

# EPA Brownfields Job Training Program

## Biannual completion next RLP for FY 23

Up to \$200,000 for nonprofit and other organizations to recruit, train, and place predominantly low-income and minority, un-employed and under-employed people living in areas affected by solid/hazardous waste.

Residents learn the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in environmental fields such as:

- hazardous and solid waste management
  - assessment and cleanup activities
- lead paint, asbestos and mold remediation
  - energy audits and renewable energy
    - emergency response
  - integrated pest management
  - storm water management



# Land Revitalization Assistance

- ▶ Through small investments of expert technical assistance, EPA helps communities identify practical reuse options and approaches that support local goals. The program shares the results of these land revitalization projects with other communities through a toolkit filled with local planning and redevelopment guides and fact sheets.
- ▶ The toolkit can be found at:  
<https://www.epa.gov/land.revitalization>



# Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)

- ▶ The Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program provides technical assistance to communities and stakeholders to help address their brownfield sites, and to increase their understanding and involvement in brownfields cleanup, revitalization and reuse. The TAB Program is funded by EPA and available to all stakeholders.
- ▶ Region 3 TAB resources are available through West Virginia University.

# WVU TAB

- ▶ Key Partners
  - ▶ Brownfields Assistance Center @ WVU
  - ▶ WVU Landscape Architecture Program
  - ▶ WVU School of Public Health

# WVU TAB

- ▶ WVU TAB's Key Resources include:
  - ▶ Brownfield Education
    - ▶ Trainings, webinars, events
  - ▶ Resource Identification
    - ▶ Grant writing assistance, grant review, resource road maps
  - ▶ Local Brownfield Program Support
    - ▶ Brownfield inventory development, questions on sites, technical support
  - ▶ Project Development & Design Assistance
    - ▶ Site-specific assistance, design support from WVU Davis College

# Other Brownfields Technical Assistance Resources

- ▶ [Groundwork USA - Environmental Justice & Equitable Development](#)
- ▶ [Hazardous Materials Training & Research Institute](#)
- ▶ [University of Louisville - Brownfields Benefits Tool](#)

# Outreach Activities and Events



**Debriefing** -unsuccessful applicants not awarded. Encourage them to reapply.



**Brownfields 101/Brownfields Basics** - for communities that are unfamiliar with Brownfields as a concept .



**Grant writing workshops** - for communities ready to apply for EPA Brownfields funding



**Brownfields 201** - resources for redevelopment beyond EPA grants. Mostly used at state conferences.



**Brownfields specialty topics** - for communities with EPA grants that want to make implementation of their projects more effective.



**Annual conferences and all grantees meeting**

# Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA)

- TBAs are performed by USEPA Region 3 at the request of an eligible entity to assess a single site that may be contaminated due to past historical practices
- TBAs are subject to a Regional review process which includes a brief application of no more than two pages
- Submission of letter requesting assistance through a TBA answering Region 3 criteria (see following slide)
- Signed access form by the site owner to facilitate field activities by EPA
- TBAs are NOT subject to a National competition but rather evaluated by Region 3 personnel
- Not a grant (No grant management responsibilities)
- No monetary cap
- No cost to the client, including no cost share found with other EPA grant opportunities
- TBAs have capacity to complete Phase I and Phase II assessments (Phase I AAI Compliant), including Lead-Based Paint (LBP) and Asbestos Contaminated Material (ACM) surveys



The North 16<sup>th</sup> Street site in Philadelphia, PA under construction for Habitat for Humanity



Hinton Ice House in Hinton, WV which will be part of the Rail Yard District Revitalization Plan



Drums found at Former Mingo Lime and Lumber site in Williamson, WV

# Targeted Brownfields Assessments Application Criteria

- ▶ Affirmation site access is Not an Impediment for EPA to complete on-site activities
- ▶ There is strong municipal commitment to redevelop the site and pursue additional grant funding to facilitate cleanup
- ▶ High developer Interest
- ▶ EPA Assessment Assistance is Crucial (lack of funding elsewhere)
- ▶ There is State/Congressional Support
- ▶ The project area has a clear need for revitalization
- ▶ Redevelopment is consistent with overall area revitalization plans

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-region-3>