

Looking Beyond the Surface with Brownfields Funding

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Introduction

The New Hampshire Brownfields Program supports the redevelopment of contaminated properties or potentially contaminated properties, by utilizing a variety of funding sources to assist with addressing the uncertainty and liability concerns associated with brownfields sites. These funding sources include:

- Federal EPA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding
 - Brownfields Assessment Program
 - Annual Federal Brownfields Appropriation (128 Funding)
- Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund
 - NHDES Cleanup Grants
- NHDES/USEPA Grantee Brownfields Partnership



What is a Brownfields Site?

Brownfields sites are defined under the federal brownfields law, known as the Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002, as "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."



- Former gas stations, mills, factories, many others...
- Abandoned and/or lack financially viable owners
- The “back forty” and “urban legends” known to long time local residents
- *Cleaning up and reinvesting in brownfields can facilitate job growth, increase local tax bases, utilize existing infrastructure, reduce development pressures on open land, and improve the environment.*



Historic \$1.5 Billion Investment into EPA's Brownfields Program

Signed into Law on November 15, 2021



EPA Authority	Regular Appropriation	Infrastructure Funds		Total Funding
CERCLA 128(a)	~\$50 M	~ \$60 M /year	~ \$300 M over 5 yrs	~ \$107 M
CERCLA 104(k)	~\$130 M	~\$240 M /year	~1.2 B over 5 yrs	~ \$370 M

ASTSWMO Position Paper on Increased 128(a) Funding - ASTSWMO

<https://astswmo.org/astswmo-position-paper-on-increased-128a-funding/>



Brownfields Assessment Program

NHDES assists municipalities, nonprofits and other public entities by providing funds to perform site assessments at potentially contaminated properties in their local communities

- The intent of this grant is to focus on communities that do not have the capacity to administer their own grant.



Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund

- Low interest loans to local governments, non-profits and private entities
 - Flexible terms
 - Loan amount limited to available funds
- Subgrants to local governments and non-profits
 - Competitive grants
 - Grants up to \$200,000 per site
 - Plan to have grant competition every other year
- Completed the 2022 NHDES Cleanup Grant Competition - Next anticipated in 2024
- NHDES could apply for an additional RLF from BIL if there was interest



Railroad Square, Keene (Former B&M Railroad Property)



USEPA Brownfields Funding Opportunities

More information: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-epa-brownfield-grant-funding>

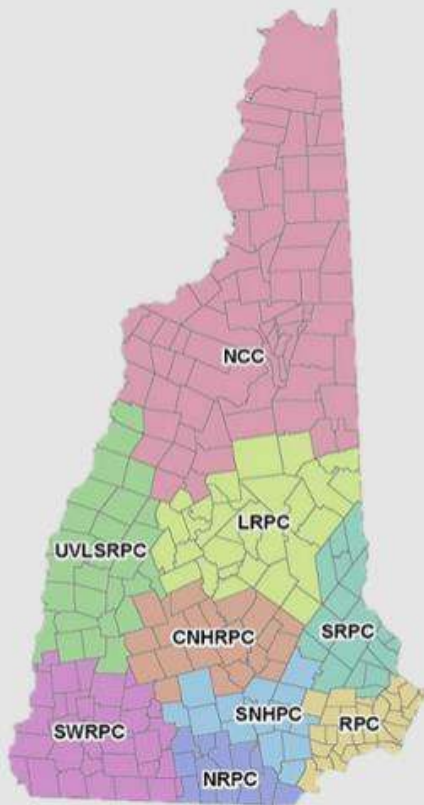
Grant Types	Regular Appropriated \$	Infrastructure \$*
Multipurpose Grants	Up to \$1 M	Up to \$10 M
Assessment Grants	Up to \$500K, \$200K/site cap	Up to \$10 M, no \$200K/site cap
RLF Grants	Up to \$1 M, 20% cost share	Up to \$10 M, no 20% cost share
Cleanup Grants	Up to \$650K, 20% cost share	Up to \$5 M, no 20% cost share

- **Assessment Grants** - provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- **Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants** provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfield sites.
- **Cleanup Grants** provide funding for cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.
- **Multipurpose (MP) Grants** provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.



Check with the local RPC!

Select Your Regional Planning Commission!

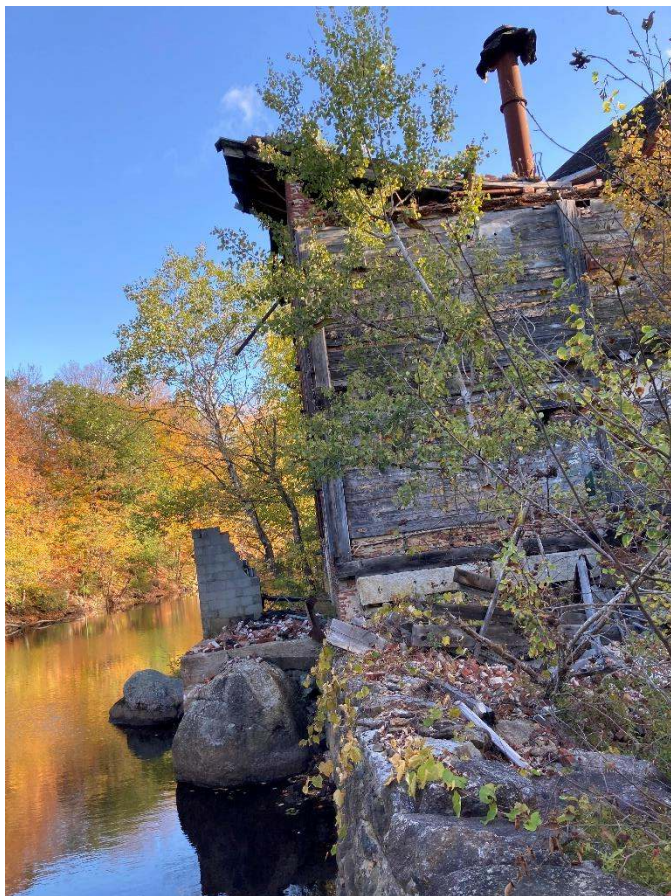


Additional Resources

- EPA Removal Program
 - Coordinated through NHDES HWRB
- Targeted Brownfields Assessments
 - <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/targeted-brownfields-assessments-tba>
- MtBE Remediation
 - <https://www.des.nh.gov/waste/contaminated-sites/mtbe-remediation>
- Petroleum Reimbursement Fund
 - <https://www.des.nh.gov/business-and-community/loans-and-grants/petroleum-reimbursement-fund>
- UConn Technical Assistance for Brownfields
 - [Homepage | Technical Assistance for Brownfields Program \(uconn.edu\)](https://www.uconn.edu/technical-assistance-for-brownfields-program/)
- EPA Land Revitalization Program
 - <https://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization>



What's Next? How to get started?



Brownfield success is about people. The most successful localities establish brownfields project teams, led by strong leaders from local government. Project teams should include:

- Prominent local leaders
- Brownfields “champions”
- Developers/Potential Funders
- Environmental Consultants
- Regional Planning Commissions
- Local Citizens - buy in, what do they want their community to look like in the future?
- Who else may be interested in this space?



Questions?

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau - Brownfields Program

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