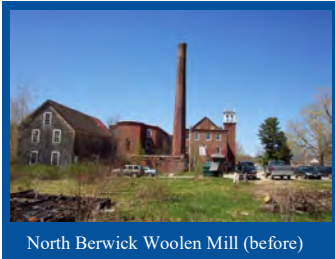




# EPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grants: Interested in Applying for Funding?

*Here's what you need to know...*

## What Is EPA's Brownfields Program?



North Berwick Woolen Mill (before)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders to work

together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. EPA provides technical and financial assistance for brownfields activities through an approach based on four main goals: protecting human health and the environment, sustaining reuse, promoting partnerships, and strengthening the marketplace. Brownfields grants serve as the foundation of the Brownfields Program and support revitalization efforts by funding environmental assessment, cleanup, and environmental workforce and job training activities.

Thousands of properties have been assessed and cleaned up through the Brownfields Program,



North Berwick Woolen Mill (after)

clearing the way for their reuse.

A brownfield is defined 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. The Brownfields Law further defines the term to include a site that is: "contaminated by a controlled substance; contaminated by petroleum or a petroleum product excluded from the definition of 'hazardous substance'; or mine-scarred land."

## What Are Multipurpose (MP) Grants?

Multipurpose (MP) Grants provide funding to carry out a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities with a proposed target area, such as a neighborhood, a number of neighboring towns, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area or a census tract.

A MP Grant applicant should have a capacity to conduct a range of eligible activities, for example:

- ✓ Developing inventories of brownfield sites;
- ✓ Prioritizing sites;
- ✓ Conducting community involvement activities;
- ✓ Conducting environmental site assessments;
- ✓ Developing cleanup plans and reuse plans related to brownfield sites;
- ✓ Carry out cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant; and
- ✓ Developing an overall plan for revitalization.

## How Much Funding Is Available?

- ✓ Applicants can apply for up to \$800,000 to address hazardous substances and/or petroleum contamination.
- ✓ An applicant may request grant funds to carry out at least one Phase II environmental site assessment; one brownfield site cleanup; and an overall plan for revitalization of one or more brownfield sites, if there is not already a plan in place.
- ✓ Multipurpose Grants require a \$40,000 cost share, which may be in the form of a contribution of money, labor, material, or services, and must be for eligible and allowable costs.

## Who Is Eligible To Apply For An MP Grant?

Eligible entities include:

- ✓ General Purpose Unit of Local Government.
- ✓ Land Clearance Authority or another quasi-governmental entity that operates under the supervision and control of, or as an agent of, a general purpose unit of local government.
- ✓ Government Entity Created by State Legislature.
- ✓ Regional Council or group of General Purpose Units of Local Government.
- ✓ Redevelopment Agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a state.
- ✓ State.
- ✓ Indian tribe other than in Alaska.
- ✓ Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community.
- ✓ Nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- ✓ Limited liability corporation/partnership in which all managing members/general partners are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.
- ✓ Qualified community development entity as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

## How Long Is The MP Grant Period?

The performance period for an Multipurpose Grant is five years.

## Where Do I Find The Application Guidelines?

Copies of the Application Guidelines can be obtained from EPA's Brownfields Program website at [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields) or from [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## How Do I Apply For An MP Grant?

Applicants submit an application through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Applications should be concise and well organized, and must provide the information requested in the guidelines. Applicants must demonstrate that they meet threshold criteria requirements and must respond to ranking criteria. Factual information about the proposed project and community must be provided.

## What Is The Evaluation/Selection Process?

Responses to threshold criteria are evaluated on a pass/fail basis. If the application does not meet the threshold criteria, the application will not be evaluated. In some circumstances, EPA may seek to clarify information.

Brownfields Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Evaluation panels consisting of EPA staff and other federal agency representatives assess how well the applications meet the threshold and ranking criteria outlined in the Application Guidelines. The Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization will provide to the Selection Official a ranking list of applicants to select based on the application's final score, availability of funds, and as appropriate, the other factors described in the Application Guidelines.

## Is Pre-Application Assistance Available?

If resources permit, EPA Regions may conduct open meetings with potential applicants. Check with your regional office for date and location information. Your regional Brownfields Program contacts can be found at [www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-contacts-epa-regional-offices](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-contacts-epa-regional-offices).

EPA can respond to questions from applicants about threshold criteria, including site eligibility and ownership. EPA staff cannot meet with applicants to discuss draft applications or provide assistance in responding to ranking criteria.