

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE



GRANT PROGRAMS
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AND TOOLS FOR COMMUNITIES



U.S. EPA REGION 7

SERVING KANSAS, IOWA, NEBRASKA,
MISSOURI & 9 TRIBAL NATIONS

EPA Region 7

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 office supports communities in the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and nine tribal nations. The purpose of this guide is to assist community leaders, local government officials, non-profits, citizens and businesses in identifying EPA resources that can support community efforts to protect and renew the environment and create a healthier and more sustainable future for their citizens. This guide can also be used by states and tribes to reach out to their communities and share information about EPA resources.

The guide is divided into three sections: Grant Programs, Technical Assistance Resources, and Information Tools. For an electronic version of this guide, visit the EPA R7 "Citizens" page at: http://www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/pdf/r7_community_resource_guide.pdf, or contact us at:

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GRANT PROGRAMS

The following is a summary of some of the grant programs offered by EPA Region 7 that are applicable to communities. While this list is focused on grants programs relevant to communities, the information does not represent all of EPA's available grant programs. For more comprehensive information about EPA's grant programs, visit our regional website at: <http://www.epa.gov/region7>.

The grant programs listed below include a picture key indicating the types of entities that are eligible to apply. Also provided is a website to visit for more information as well as local EPA Region 7 contacts.

KEY: Grant Program Eligible Entities



Local Governments
& Municipalities



Non-Profit Groups &
Educational Institutions



Citizens



Businesses

Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program

Brownfield and Land Revitalization programs provide funding and/or direct assistance to communities to help remove barriers to sustainable development, especially at properties where hazardous substances are suspected to be present.



Assessment Grants—Recipients inventory, characterize and assess, and conduct planning and community involvement.



Revolving Loan Fund Grants—Enables states, political subdivisions, and Indian tribes to make low-interest loans to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield properties.



Cleanup Grants—Recipients carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.



Job Training Grants—Eligible entities recruit unemployed and under-employed residents, provide skills training for an environmental field, and place graduates in full-time, sustainable employment, possibly in brownfield and assessment work of community.



Targeted Brownfield Assessment—Help states, tribes, and municipalities minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with brownfield sites. EPA contractors provide assessment services for the benefit of the requesting organization.

Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program (Continued)

Website:	http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm	
Contacts:	Land Revitalization Direct Assistance Brownfield Coordinator Brownfield Assessment Grants Brownfield Cleanup Grants Brownfield Job Training Grants Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants Targeted Brownfield Assessment	Whitney Rawls (913) 551-7678 Susan Klein (913) 551-7786 Devin Pollock (913) 551-7275 Deb Kennedy (913) 551-7628 Ina Square (913) 551-7357 Alma Moreno Lahm (913) 551-7380 Todd H. Davis (913) 551-7749

Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Fund Programs

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program can be an integral component of a city or regional sustainability strategy by providing low interest loans for water quality protection projects for wastewater treatment, nonpoint source pollution control, and watershed and estuary management. State water pollution control programs receive grant funds and, in return, loan monies to communities in need at low rates.

Website:	http://www.epa.gov/region7/water/srf.htm#cwsrf	
Contacts:	For Kansas and Missouri — Judy Novak (913) 551-7360; Nebraska – Rao Surampalli (913) 551-7453; Iowa — Christopher Simmons (913) 551-7812	

Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program's goal is to provide states with a financing mechanism for ensuring safe drinking water to the public. The program encourages funding for small and disadvantaged communities, and to programs that encourage pollution prevention as a tool for ensuring safe drinking water. Community water systems, both publicly and privately owned, and non-profit non-community water systems are eligible for funding under this program.

Website:	http://www.epa.gov/region7/water/srf.htm#dwsrf	
Contacts:	For Kansas and Missouri — Judy Novak (913) 551-7360; Nebraska – Rao Surampalli (913) 551-7453; Iowa — Christopher Simmons (913) 551-7812	

Climate Showcase Communities Grant Program

The overall goal of the Climate Showcase Communities Grant Program is to create replicable models of sustainable community action that generate cost-effective and persistent greenhouse gas reductions while improving the environmental, economic, public health, or social conditions in a community.

Website:	http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/showcase.html	
Contact:	Kim Olson (913) 551-7458	

Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE)

The main focus of the CARE program is to enhance or create sustainable local networks within communities and implement solutions to improve their environment and their quality of life for years to come. The CARE program and funding provides support to help communities form collaborative and sustainable partnerships and helps them develop a comprehensive understanding of the many sources of environmental risks within their community. CARE Level 1 cooperative agreement grantees work in partnership with EPA, partners, and their community to identify these issues, educate the community on these issues, and prioritize them. CARE Level II projects fund the implementation of risk reduction solutions through collaborative action at the local level. The CARE program also provides access to EPA staff and technical resources.

Websites:	http://www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/care/index.htm and http://www.epa.gov/care	
Contact:	Kathleen L. Fenton (913) 551-7874	

Community Based Air Toxics Projects

EPA supports air toxics projects in a number of communities across the nation to help inform and empower citizens to make local decisions concerning the health of their communities.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/air/toxicair/community/index.html>

Contacts: Stephanie Doolan (913) 551-7719

Environmental Education

The Environmental Education program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate or disseminate environmental education practices, methods or techniques; and provides the skills needed to make informed decisions and to take responsible actions.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/index.html>

Contact: Denise Morrison (913) 551-7402

Environmental Justice Small Grants

The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public health issues in their communities. Successful collaborative partnerships involve not only well-designed strategic plans to build, maintain and sustain the partnerships, but also working towards addressing the local environmental and public health issues.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants.html>

Contact: Althea Moses (913) 551-7649

Five Star Restoration Program

The Five Star Restoration Program provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community based wetland riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach and training activities.

Websites: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star/> and <http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/>

Contact: Jason Daniels (913) 551-7443

Indoor Air Quality Program

EPA Region 7 provides outreach, grants and technical assistance to assist citizens in improving the indoor air they breathe. Chemicals and compounds contributing to indoor air pollution include radon, tobacco smoke, paints and other chemicals. Related issues include proper ventilation, mold abatement, household cleaning, and indoor fuel combustion of wood, oil and gas.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/IAQ>

Contacts: Greg Crable (913) 551-7443; Gina Grier (913) 551-7078

National Clean Diesel Campaign

The National Clean Diesel Campaign builds on the success of its regulatory and non-regulatory efforts to reduce emissions from diesel engines. The campaign is working to reduce the pollution emitted from diesel engines across the country through the implementation of varied technologies, including the retrofit, repower, or replacement of diesel vehicles. EPA offers grant funding for these projects, as well as technical assistance and networking through the Blue Skyways Collaborative.

Website: <http://www.blueskyways.org/index.html>

Contact: Amy Bhesania (913) 551-7147; Chrissy Wolfersberger (913) 551-7864

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program

The Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program works cooperatively with states, tribes and communities to ensure that nonpoint source water quality problems are well-defined, solutions are well-defined and planned in detail on a watershed basis, and funding and technical assistance resources are available to assist in solution implementation. Under the NPS program, states, territories and tribes receive grant money that supports a wide variety of activities including technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects and monitoring to assess the success of specific nonpoint source implementation projects. States, territories and tribes may offer a variety of grant and assistance programs to communities for watershed protection.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/NPS/index.html>

Contact: Steve Schaff (913) 551-7447

Smart Growth

The Smart Growth Program works with local, state and national experts to discover and encourage successful, environmentally sensitive development strategies in order to help communities grow in ways that expand economic opportunity, protect public health and the environment, and enhance neighborhoods. This program conducts research, publishes reports and other publications, showcases outstanding communities, works with communities through grants and technical assistance, and brings together diverse interests to encourage better growth and development.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/index.htm>

Contacts: Greg Crable (913) 551-7443; Gina Grier (913) 551-7078

Wetland Program Development Grants

Wetland Program Development Grants provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of water pollution. These grants provide states, tribes, local governments, interstate agencies and intertribal consortia an opportunity to carry out projects to develop and refine comprehensive wetland programs.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands/initiative_index.cfm

Contact: Jennifer Ousley (913) 551-7498

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



In addition to grants, EPA also provides technical assistance to communities to support their efforts to build healthy places to live, work and play. These resources come in a variety of forms such as on-site technical assistance, training, education, environmental management assistance and planning support.

The following section lists some of the technical assistance resources EPA Region 7 offers communities. For more comprehensive information, please visit our regional website: <http://www.epa.gov/region7>.

Children's Health Protection Program

The Children's Health Protection Program supports and facilitates efforts to protect children's health from environmental threats. It is essential that children have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, safe food to eat, and a healthy environment in which to learn, grow and thrive.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/childrens_health.htm

Contact: LaTonya Sanders (913) 551-7555

Community Based Childhood Asthma Program

The Community-Based Childhood Asthma Program is a voluntary public-health outreach program designed to reduce adverse health outcomes and economic burdens due to asthma by promoting best practices that integrate control of environmental triggers as a component of comprehensive asthma management.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/asthma/>

Contacts: Greg Crable (913) 551-7391

Energy Star

A joint program of EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Star helps American businesses and consumers save money and protect the environment by investing in energy-efficient products and practices. EPA Region 7 provides support of this national initiative in homes, buildings, products, outreach technical assistance, and partner support throughout the region.

Website: <http://www.energystar.gov>

Contact: Craig Bernstein (913) 551-7688

Environmental Finance Center

EPA has designated Wichita State University's Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs in Wichita, Kan., as an Environmental Finance Center (EFC) to promote the development of environmentally and financially sustainable communities. Working to connect government entities with outside organizations, the EFC facilitates the sharing of tools, technologies and resources offered by a network of collaborators. The center helps communities, tribes and private entities comply with environmental and public health protection requirements and provides multi-media environmental finance expertise and outreach to a variety of areas including water resources and infrastructure, solid waste management, air quality, renewable energy, green building and land conservation.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/wsu_efc.htm
and <http://hws.wichita.edu/environmentalfinance.html>

Contacts: Bob Dunlevy (913) 551-7798

Environmental Justice Showcase Communities

As part of a national effort, EPA regional offices work in partnership with community-based organizations to find the best ways to achieve real results in communities through the engagement of governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Partners are encouraged to pool their collective resources and expertise. Lessons learned through these demonstration projects help guide the design and implementation of future Environmental Justice projects.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-showcase.html>

Contact: Althea Moses (913) 551-7649

Healthy Homes Community Initiative

The Healthy Homes Community Initiative is a demonstration pilot in which EPA Region 7 partners with environmental, health and energy organizations in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Partners provide educational information and services to help community members address concerns related to health and indoor environments.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/region07/citizens/healthy_homes.htm

Contacts: Althea Moses (913) 551-7649

Kansas City Urban Water Monitoring Network

The Kansas City Urban Water Monitoring Network is a pilot effort in metropolitan Kansas City that monitors a network of urban streams and lakes, builds a partnership in the community to conduct monitoring and sharing of data in a repository at www.kcwaters.org, and uses real-time telemetry and data reporting of bacteria levels in local streams. One ultimate objective of the pilot project is to transfer its urban monitoring and data sharing protocols to application in other urban areas of Region 7.

Website: <http://www.kcwaters.org>

Contacts: Roberta Vogel-Leutung (913) 551-7072; Dr. Gary Welker (913) 551-7177

Kansas Water & Energy Partnership (KANWE)

Through the KANWE Partnership, EPA in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Wichita State Environmental Finance Center, Schneider Electric, Kansas Municipal Utilities, Kansas Corporation Commission and the K-State Pollution Prevention Office assists selected communities to improve energy efficiency in their water and wastewater treatment operations, develop energy management plans, find funding for system upgrades and implement projects.

Contact: Ruben McCullers (913) 551-7455; Kerry Herndon (913) 551-7286

Lead-Based Paint Program

The Lead-Based Paint Program focuses on the reduction of lead-based paint hazards in residential housing and child-occupied facilities. By accrediting trainers, certifying firms and individuals working with lead-based paint, and providing guidance to the general public, we assist in the elimination of childhood lead poisoning in coordination with local, state, and other federal agencies.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/lead>

Contacts: Crystal McIntyre (913) 551-7261; Maria Morey (913) 551-7079

Missouri Utility Partnership Program

Through the Missouri Water Utilities Partnership, EPA, in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Wichita State Environmental Finance Center, and Siemens Corporation, assists selected communities to improve the energy efficiency of their water and wastewater treatment operations, find funding for system upgrades, and develop overall energy management plans.

Contact: Ruben McCullers (913) 551-7455; Kerry Herndon (913) 551-7286

Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program

The Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program is a voluntary program that forms partnerships with pesticide users to reduce the potential health and environmental risks associated with pesticide use and implement pollution prevention strategies.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/peps>

Contacts: Doug Jones (913) 551-7592

Radon Program

The Radon Program emphasizes reducing radon risks in homes located in identified high radon areas through focusing on key targets of opportunity, such as real estate transactions and new home construction. The program attempts to maximize the number of homes with radon-reducing features, thus minimizing the second leading cause of lung cancer.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/radon>

Contact: Bob Dye (913) 551-7605

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Community Involvement

Members of communities and owners/operators of hazardous waste management facilities play an integral role in the hazardous waste permitting process. EPA provides assistance to communities through a variety of technical assistance and training resources to help them participate in RCRA decisions at facilities in their communities.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/tsd/permit/pubpart/index.htm>

Contact: Hattie Thomas (913) 551-7762

Superfund Community Involvement

EPA provides assistance to communities through a variety of technical assistance and training resources to help them participate in Superfund decisions at sites in their community.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/resources.htm>

Contacts: Hattie Thomas (913) 551-7762

Sustainable Skylines

Sustainable Skylines is a voluntary initiative which works through public and private partners to provide a portfolio of integrated and multimedia efforts to reduce air emissions and assist cities in becoming more sustainable for future generations.

Website: <http://www.sustainableskylineskc.org/>

Contact: Chrissy Wolfersberger (913) 551-7864; Amy Bhesania (913) 551-7147

Urban Waters

The Urban Waters Initiative is a national effort that highlights the particular plight of urban waters. Its goals are to reconnect urban populations with their water bodies and to encourage public-private partnerships for sustainable restoration and redevelopment of urban water bodies and surrounding lands. The initiative has a strong environmental justice thread, focused on including frequently excluded communities and community members in conversations and decision-making about water issues. A small grant program has been established to assist efforts under the Targeted Watershed Grant (TWG) Program.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/twg>

Contact: Steve Kovac (913) 551-7698; Amy Shields (913) 551-7396

Water Sense

WaterSense is a partnership program that seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by promoting water efficiency; enhancing the market for water-efficient products, programs, and practices; and helping consumers identify water-efficient products and programs.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>

Contact: Stephanie Lindberg (913) 551-7423; Darlene Schowengerdt (913) 551-7474

Waste Wise

Waste Wise is a partnership program that provides technical support and assistance to industry, tribes and communities interested in reducing waste generation and increasing recycling.

Website: www.epa.gov/wastewise

Contact: Jennifer Dawani (913) 551-7162; Bruce Canova (913) 551-7888

INFORMATION TOOLS

EPA offers a variety of information tools to help communities learn more about the environmental conditions in their areas and ways to address environmental concerns. These resources come in a variety of forms such as mapping tools, searchable databases, environmental impact calculators and assessment tools.

The following section highlights some of the useful information tools EPA offers to communities. For more comprehensive information please visit the EPA for Concerned Citizens website at: <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/citizen.htm>



Adopt Your Watershed

The Adopt Your Watershed program maintains a database of more than 2,600 watershed groups that provides information on community-based groups at work in watersheds, and opportunities to get involved in activities such as volunteer water monitoring, stream cleanups and storm drain marking. The program also provides a Watershed Stewardship Toolkit with eight things communities can do to make a difference in their watersheds.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/owow_keep/adopt/index.html#toolkit

Cleanups in My Community

This mapping tool helps users identify properties throughout the U.S. that have been contaminated by hazardous materials and that have been cleaned up under EPA's Superfund, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and/or Brownfields programs.

Website: <http://iaspub.epa.gov/Cleanups/>

Community Air Screening How-To Manual

The Community Air Screening How-to Manual makes air quality assessment tools more accessible to communities. The manual presents and explains a step-by-step process that a community can follow to form partnerships to access technical expertise, identify and inventory local sources of air pollutants, review pollutant sources to identify known hazards that may present a potential health risk to the community, and set priorities and develop plans for improvement.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/cahp/pubs/howto.htm>

EJ View

Environmental Justice (EJ) View is a mapping tool that lets users to create maps and generate detailed reports based on the geographic areas and data sets they choose.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/mapping.html>

Green Communities Toolkit

Green Communities is a web-based toolkit and planning guide designed to help communities access the tools and information to help them become more sustainable and green communities

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/greenkit/index.htm>

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator

This calculator can help communities educate residents about their personal greenhouse gas emissions, providing support to community-wide efforts aimed at reducing climate impacts.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

Green Infrastructure Models and Calculators

This site offers tools to model stormwater runoff, water quality impacts from land use changes, the benefits of green roofs and urban tree coverage, and pollutant load reductions; and to evaluate the performance of green infrastructure techniques, and help quantify the costs and benefits of stormwater treatment devices and green infrastructure investments.

Website: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure/modelsandcalculators.cfm>

Municipal Government Recycling Toolkit

This resource guide helps local governments create successful recycling programs. Topics covered include starting and improving recycling programs, and the benefits recycling programs can create for the economy, climate change, and community development.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/rcra/mgtoolkit/index.html>

My Environment

The My Environment search application is designed to provide a cross-section of environmental information based on the user's location.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/myenvironment>

Smart Growth Community Scorecards

A collection of scorecards that help communities assess their existing policies, current development patterns, and proposed development projects based on Smart Growth principles.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/dced/scorecards/index.htm>

Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit for Local Governments

This toolkit addresses the local code ordinances that affect the design, construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of a building and its immediate site. It contains an assessment tool, resource guide and action plan development guide for implementing changes to the permitting process.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/region4/recycle/green-building-toolkit.pdf>

Water Quality Scorecard

This tool helps local governments identify opportunities to remove barriers, and revise and create codes, ordinances, and incentives to better protect water quality.

Website: http://www.epa.gov/dced/water_scorecard.htm



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