

Brownfields

Success Story

A Former Coal Mine Springs to Life

Weirton, West Virginia

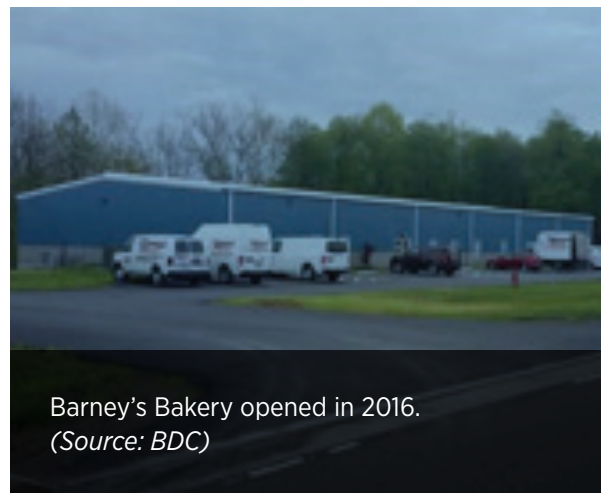
Located on a 45-acre parcel in Weirton, West Virginia, the Three Springs Business Park is situated on a former coal mine owned and operated by Weirton Steel. After more than a century of use in both the mining and steel industries, the land was suspected to be contaminated. Companies looking to relocate to the site wanted to ensure a clean bill of environmental health before staking their claim. It became clear that U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) involvement in any redevelopment project was vital to the successful revitalization of this brownfield site.

The Cleanup

EPA awarded three Brownfield Assessment Grants to the Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning and Development Council (2004, 2005 and 2009) and one to the Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle (2016) to assess sites on the former Weirton Steel property. Environmental site assessments revealed no major contaminants. EPA funding for the assessments helped the redevelopment organizations work with four companies to clear hurdles in their quest to make the Three Springs Business Park their new home.

The Benefits

The Three Springs Business Park redevelopment project has been a great success for the Weirton community. Nearly \$20 million dollars was leveraged to complete the redevelopment of the site. Four businesses—Rue21 (relocated in 2012), Barney's Bakery and North American Industrial Services (relocated in 2016) and Pietro Fiorentini (opening in 2018)—have been happy with their decision to move there. And local residents now have opportunities to work in modern industries close to home. More than 350 jobs have been created, and it's estimated that number could eventually expand to 1,000.



Barney's Bakery opened in 2016.
(Source: BDC)

EPA Grant Recipients:

Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning and Development Council, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle

EPA Grant Type:

Brownfield Assessment

Former Use: Coal Mine

Current Uses: Industrial, Retail

“The local impact from the jobs the business park will create will be enormous.”

*Patrick Ford,
Executive Director,
Business Development
Corporation of the
Northern Panhandle*

For more information:

Visit the EPA Brownfields website at www.epa.gov/brownfields or contact Joe Nowak at 215-814-3303 or Nowak.Joseph@epa.gov.