

U.S. EPA REGION 8  
WBWIRE



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## Region 8 Communities to Receive \$3.1 million in Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants

Today, EPA announced \$64.6 million dollars will be awarded nationwide to 149 communities through EPA's Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup grant competition. In Region 8, a total of \$3.1 million will be awarded to 8 entities for Brownfields assessment and cleanup. For more information, read [EPA's press release](#) and [grant awardee information](#). Listed below are the new Region 8 Awardees:

- The City of Colorado Springs, Colorado will receive a \$600,000 coalition assessment grant to conduct assessments and reuse planning along the Shooks Run Creek Corridor and the Fountain Creek Corridor. Read EPA's [news release](#).
- The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians will use a \$500,000 cleanup grant to address hazardous building materials in 6 buildings in Belcourt, North Dakota, and two buildings in Dunseith, North Dakota. The tribe plans to remediate the structures and reuse the sites for desperately needed housing and office space. Read EPA's [news release](#).
- The Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation in Montana will receive a \$300,000 assessment grant to assess the "runway homes" and other vacant homes on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation for hazardous building materials to help address housing concerns for the 300 families on the Tribe's housing waiting list. Read EPA's [news release](#).
- A \$300,000 assessment grant will allow Missoula County, Montana to conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments on brownfields created by the collapse of the timber industry in the Community of Evaro and the Milltown Riverfront Neighborhoods. Read EPA's [news release](#).

- A \$600,000 coalition assessment grant will allow Salt Lake County, Utah and coalition partners to conduct assessments in Salt Lake County, Murray City and Salt Lake City. Read EPA's [news release](#).
- The City of Orem, Utah will be awarded a \$300,000 assessment grant to assess sites identified in their brownfields area-wide plan in the Geneva Road Area.
- A \$200,000 cleanup grant will be awarded to the Town of Dinosaur, Colorado to abate hazardous building materials at the Dinosaur School Building prior to redeveloping the property for use as a community center. Read EPA's [news release](#).
- Sweetgrass Development Corporation will use a \$300,000 assessment grant to assist communities in the North Central Economic Development District of Montana. Read EPA's [news release](#).



Figure 1: Image from the City of Orem's Brownfields area wide plan identifying redevelopment areas along the Geneva Road Corridor. A key resource identified in the City of Orem's Brownfields area wide plan was receiving an EPA Brownfields assessment grant to assess catalyst sites along the Corridor.

## EPA Regional Realignment and Region 8's Brownfields Program Update

Things are changing around the EPA Regional offices, but we don't expect that there will be any significant changes to the Brownfields Program. On Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, EPA Region 8 began operating under a new organizational structure. The goal of the realignment is to create a more consistent organizational structure across the ten EPA regions. The Region 8 Brownfields Program is now located in the Land, Chemicals, and Redevelopment Division (LCRD) and will report through a new management team. Then on May 1<sup>st</sup>, Gregory Sopkin ([bio](#)) became the new Region 8 Administrator. The Region 8 Brownfields Program will continue to provide the same level of support to our external partners.

## 2019 Brownfields Training Conference, Los Angeles, CA, December 11-13, 2019

Save the date for the 2019 Brownfields Training Conference in the Los Angeles Convention Center from December 11-13 with pre-conference programs on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The [call for ideas](#) has been extended until June 6, 2019. Stay tuned for conference sessions and information regarding the EPA Region 8 open house event for conference attendees from communities in Region 8. Registration and housing for the 2019 National Brownfields Conference will open on June 10, 2019. Visit the [2019 National Brownfields Training Conference Website](#) for more information.



Figure 2: 2019 Brownfields Training Conference

## **2019 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum, Palm Springs, California, August 19-22, 2019**

This year's Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF) will be in the Palm Springs Renaissance Hotel in Palm Springs, California from August 19-22, 2019 and will feature special trainings, field trips and breakout sessions focused on the conference theme: *A National Conversation on Tribal Land and Water Resources*. Tribal Brownfields is one of many topics highlighted at the conference. The reduced rate lodging deadline closes July 18, 2019 and online TLEF conference registration closes Monday, August 5, 2019. Lodging and registration instructions are located on the [Tribal Lands Forum Website](#).

## **Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant Solicitation**

EPA is soliciting proposals until June 10, 2019 from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver [Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training \(EWDJT\)](#) programs that recruit, train and place local unemployed and underemployed residents with skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field. The Request for Proposals can be accessed here on [grants.gov](#). On May 1, EPA hosted an outreach webinar for prospective applicants and a copy of the presentation can be viewed [here](#).

## **City of Missoula Approves Brownfields Loan for Riverfront Triangle Project**

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, the City of Missoula, Montana approved the use of \$610,000 in EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Funds to conduct asbestos abatement at five buildings to make way for the future Riverfront Triangle Project. The Riverfront Triangle Project includes a 3-block redevelopment plan for a convention center, hotel, new housing, office space, retail, restaurants and parking in downtown Missoula. In addition to new structures and parking, the redevelopment will provide new trails along the river with the potential to incorporate a new pedestrian bridge over the river. The borrower, Riverfront Triangle Partners, LLC, anticipates completion of the asbestos abatement work by fall 2019, which will allow the existing structures to be demolished and development to move forward. When completed, the Project will be one of the largest infill redevelopment in Montana history. The Missoula Current reported on the [Brownfields Cleanup Loan for the Riverfront Triangle Project](#). Additional Project information and conceptual plans can be viewed on the [Riverfront Triangle webpage](#).



Figure 3: Riverfront Triangle Redevelopment Concept



## Sloans Project, Denver, Colorado, Highlighted in the Anatomy of a Brownfields Publication



EPA recently updated the publication the [Anatomy of Brownfields](#). The publication helps explain the real estate process for cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields sites. The [Sloans Project](#) is a brownfields redevelopment of a 19-acre-site in Denver, Colorado, that is included as a case study on pg.13 of the [publication](#). The City of Denver utilized the Colfax Mainstreet Coalition brownfields assessment grant to perform several assessments on the former hospital site prior to the retail and residential redevelopment project which won LEED-Neighborhood Development Gold Certification.

## New Brownfields Publication Includes Minot, North Dakota and Dubois, Wyoming

EPA published a new booklet highlighting the accomplishments of EPA Brownfield Grant recipients around the country titled: [Brownfields: Properties with New Purpose, Improving Local Economies in Communities with Brownfield Sites](#). On page 12, you can read about two Region 8 projects, the Oak Park Theater in Minot, North Dakota and a former 52-acres sawmill that is now the Warm Valley Lodge Assisted Living Center and the Clarence Allison Memorial Rodeo Arena in Dubois, Wyoming.

## Heavily Attended Brownfields Workshop in Casper, Wyoming

On May 15-16, the City of Casper, Wyoming hosted a Brownfields workshop focusing on redevelopment resources and partnering opportunities for Wyoming communities at the centrally located Fort Caspar Museum. The workshop was a collaborative effort of multiple organizations that brought together 40 participants including state and local representatives as well as developers, investors and other parties interested in revitalizing towns across Wyoming. The City of Casper's success using their EPA Brownfields grant to help revitalize the Old Yellowstone District was recently featured in the [Casper Star Tribune](#).



Figure 4: *Brownfields Workshop participants at the Yellowstone Garage in Casper, Wyoming during a Walking Tour in the Old Yellowstone District Revitalization area*

## Contact Us

For more information about U.S. EPA Region 8's Brownfields Program, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-region-8>

or contact Stephanie Shen with the EPA Region 8 Brownfields Team at

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