

**Western Brownfields Wire Newsletter – Spring 2024**

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**Region 8 Communities to Receive \$11.8 Million in Cleanup, Assessment, and Multipurpose Funds**

EPA is excited to announce this year's investment in Brownfield Communities of more than \$300 million in grants and funding including \$231 million to be awarded to 181 grants nationwide through EPA's Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup grant competition.

A total of \$11.8 million in Cleanup, Assessment, and Multipurpose grants will be provided to 12 communities in Region 8.

Congratulations to the successful Region 8 communities!

For more information, read [EPA's Press Release](#), grant awardee information, and click the recipient's name below for more information about the recipient's proposed project.

**Region 8 Brownfields Grant Selections**

**Cleanup Grants**

- [City of Northglenn](#), Colorado: \$2,750,000 for the Northglenn Recreation Center
- [Town of Kersey](#), Colorado: \$1,132,899 for the Union Pacific Railroad Grain Elevator
- [Metro West Housing Solutions](#), Colorado: \$500,000 for the Belmar Groves Apartments

**Multipurpose Grants**

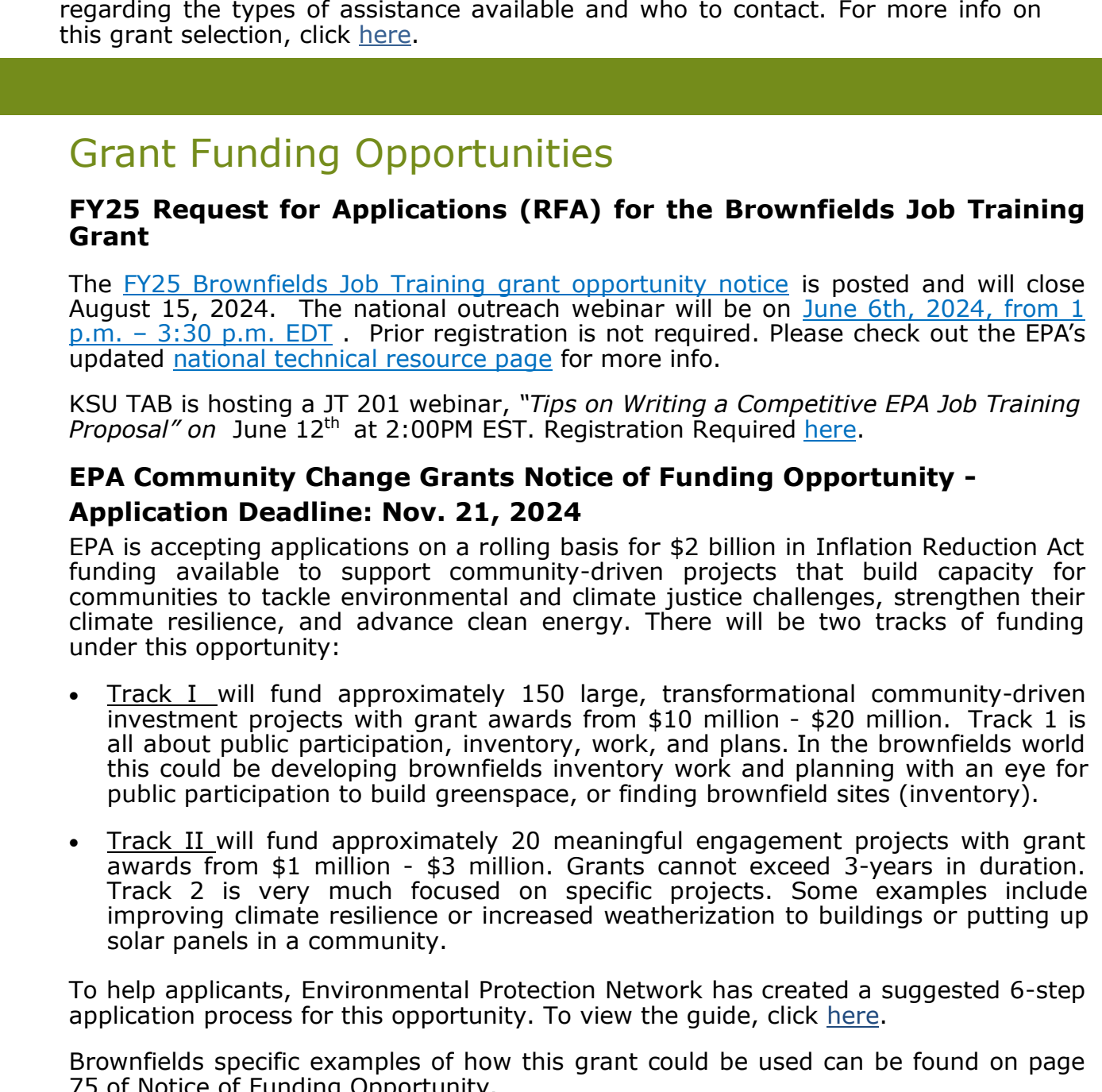
- [City of Pueblo](#), Colorado: \$1,000,000
- [City of Monte Vista](#), Colorado: \$1,000,000
- [South Dakota Science and Technology Authority](#), South Dakota: \$1,000,000

**Community-wide Assessment Grants**

- [City of Spanish Fork](#), Utah: \$500,000
- [City of Murray](#), Utah: \$500,000
- [Sweetgrass Development Corporation](#), Montana: \$500,000
- [City of Greeley](#), Colorado: \$500,000
- [Bear Paw Development Corporation](#), Montana: \$500,000

**Community-Wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes**

- [South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#), South Dakota: \$2,000,000



**FY24 Tribal Technical Assistance Grant Selection**

The FY24 Tribal Technical Assistance Grant will be awarded to Kansas State University. This \$4 million grant will have a 5-year period of performance of May 1st, 2024 - April 30th, 2029. If you are a Tribe, you will be able to continue to contact KSU TAB for Tribal TAB assistance [here](#). Stay tuned more information regarding the types of assistance available and who to contact. For more info on this grant selection, click [here](#).

**RLF Technical Assistance Grant Selection**

The FY24 Technical Assistance to Existing and Potential Brownfields RLF Grant Recipients will be Grow America. This grant will help communities gain an understanding of requirements for managing a successful RLF Program, and build capacity for existing RLF CARs, so that they can better manage their RLF Programs when the grant is open (and in post-closure status). Stay tuned more information regarding the types of assistance available and who to contact. For more info on this grant selection, click [here](#).

**Grant Funding Opportunities**

**FY25 Request for Applications (RFA) for the Brownfields Job Training Grant**

The [FY25 Brownfields Job Training grant opportunity notice](#) is posted and will close August 15, 2024. The national outreach webinar will be on [June 6th, 2024, from 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT](#). Prior registration is not required. Please check out the EPA's updated [national technical resource page](#) for more info.

KSU TAB is hosting a JT 201 webinar, *"Tips on Writing a Competitive EPA Job Training Proposal"* on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM EST. Registration Required [here](#).

**EPA Community Change Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity - Application Deadline: Nov. 21, 2024**

EPA is accepting applications on a rolling basis for \$2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding available to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy. There will be two tracks of funding under this opportunity:

- **Track I** will fund approximately 150 large, transformational community-driven investment projects with grant awards from \$10 million - \$20 million. Track 1 is all about public participation, inventory, work, and plans. In the brownfields world this could be developing brownfields inventory work and planning with an eye for public participation to build greenspace, or finding brownfield sites (inventory).
- **Track II** will fund approximately 20 meaningful engagement projects with grant awards from \$1 million - \$3 million. Grants cannot exceed 3-years in duration. Track 2 is very much focused on specific projects. Some examples include improving climate resilience or increased weatherization to buildings or putting up solar panels in a community.

To help applicants, Environmental Protection Network has created a suggested 6-step application process for this opportunity. To view the guide, click [here](#).

Brownfields specific examples of how this grant could be used can be found on page 75 of Notice of Funding Opportunity.

To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#). To apply for this opportunity, [view the NOFO on Grants.gov](#).

**Brownfields Grant Updates**

- Stay up to date on upcoming and past EPA Grants Webinars [here](#) or by subscribing to the [EPA Grants Update Listserv](#).
- OBLR hosted a public webinar on February 26<sup>th</sup> on Affordable and Workforce Housing Development on Former Brownfield Sites. The recording is available at this [link](#). Find all past trainings and events here: [link](#).

**Brownfields Job Training (JT) Updates**

**New Job Training Tip Sheet**

Interested in applying for JT funding? Check out this new [Brownfields Job Training Tip Sheet](#) to add some tips and tricks to your knowledge.

**Groundworks Denver (GWD) Hosts Brownfields Job Training Graduation**

GWD was awarded a \$178,000 Brownfields Job Training grant in September 2021 to deliver a training program focused on green infrastructure design, implementation, and management for young adults from the City of Sheridan, Colorado. The second cohort of students, which had 11 participants, celebrated their program graduation on October 27, 2023. For additional information, contact the EPA Region 8 Brownfields Job Training Grant Coordinator, [Christine Michaud-Tilly](#).

**EPA Updates**

- The R8 Brownfields program is incorporating key steps for community education and outreach, deconstruction of high lead content components, demolition dust suppression and monitoring, and timely post-demolition activities to help prevent dispersal of lead dust into the surrounding community during whole-building demolitions. This is critical when a Brownfields cleanup project involves the whole-building demolition of a pre-1978 residential or nonresidential structure where lead-based paint/lead-based paint hazards are present. We invite our grantees to add lead-safe demolition/work practices into their cleanup projects. For more information on tools and resources, please contact [Christine Michaud-Tilly](#) at [Christine.Michaud-Tilly@epa.gov](#).

For more info on lead and whole-building lead-safe demolitions:

- ◊ [www.epa.gov/lead](#)
- ◊ [EPA large-scale residential demolition](#)
- ◊ Check your state's demolition information [here](#).

Also remember to ask your contractor to review OSHA's General [Industry \(29 CFR 1910\)](#) and [Construction Standards \(29 CFR 1926\)](#).

- The US EPA Superfund Regional Screening Levels have been updated for spring 2024, including the revised levels for lead in soil. Please visit the [website](#) for a full list of what's new.
- EPA Strengthens Safeguards to Protect Families and Children from Lead in Contaminated Soil at Residential Sites. Read the [summary document](#) for more detailed information.
- EPA Publishes Best Practices Guide for ["Construction & Demolition Landfills in Indian Country: Federal Regulations and Best Practices"](#) to help Tribal Governments and others involved in the decision to site or continue the operation of a C&D landfill in Indian Country.

**New Grantee Resources**

Congratulations to all the new grant recipients! Stay tuned for an email from an EPA Region 8 Brownfields Project Officer with next steps.

Update: New grant recipients are encouraged to complete two online courses. EPA defines new applicants/recipients as an organization that never received an EPA grant before, or if the organization last received an EPA grant prior to FY2015 (i.e., prior to October 1, 2014). Organizations can check [USA Spending](#) to determine if they are a new applicant/recipient for this requirement by using these [instructions](#). Current recipients are welcome, but not required to take the courses. The two courses are:

- [EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients](#)
- [How to Develop a Budget](#)

**Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Successes**

**EPA Completes BIL-Funded TBA at 44 Housing Units for Elevation Community Land Trust (ECLT) in Fort Collins, CO**

Since summer of 2022, EPA has been conducting phase I and II environmental site assessments of homes for ECLT via the TBA program with a total of 44 units assessed. The TBAs have been funded, in-part, with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and have helped the non-profit meet due diligence requirements and identify asbestos and lead-based paint contamination prior to acquisition and renovations. All the assessed homes will be remediated, as needed, before they are sold to income-qualified households through ECLT. The homeownership will provide wealth-building opportunities and safe living environments for generations to come.

If you are interested in a TBA you can learn more and apply [here](#).

**Region 8 Success Stories**

**Central Montana Medical Center Breaks Ground on Comprehensive Cancer Treatment Facility in Lewistown, Montana**

The Helmsley [Cancer Center](#) broke ground on September 13, 2023, to create a full-service treatment facility to alleviate the significant travel burden experienced by over 250 cancer patients in winter months. Brownfields funding was used as part of the capital funding stack as a first-in-time funding source from which other federal grants and foundation funds could be layered after alleviating environmental risk from the project. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality provided an assessment of hazardous building materials utilizing their statewide brownfield assessment grant. This was followed up with a \$125,000 loan and \$350,000 subgrant for abatement of asbestos from Snowy Mountain Development Corporation (SMDC) through their Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund grant.



Above image: Groundbreaking at the 2023 Central Montana Medical Center

**Spirit Lake Nation Completes over 20 Cleanups with BIL Funding**

From late 2022 to fall 2023, Spirit Lake's Tribal Response Program cleaned asbestos, lead based paint, methamphetamine and other contaminants from multiple home sites and other brownfields properties. The cleaned properties will primarily be reused for new home sites and open space. Spirit Lake's TRP has maintained impressive momentum for many years and has cleaned over 70 properties. EPA is currently conducting Targeted Brownfields Assessments at 15 additional sites for Spirit Lake Nation. If contamination is found, those sites will be cleaned later this year.



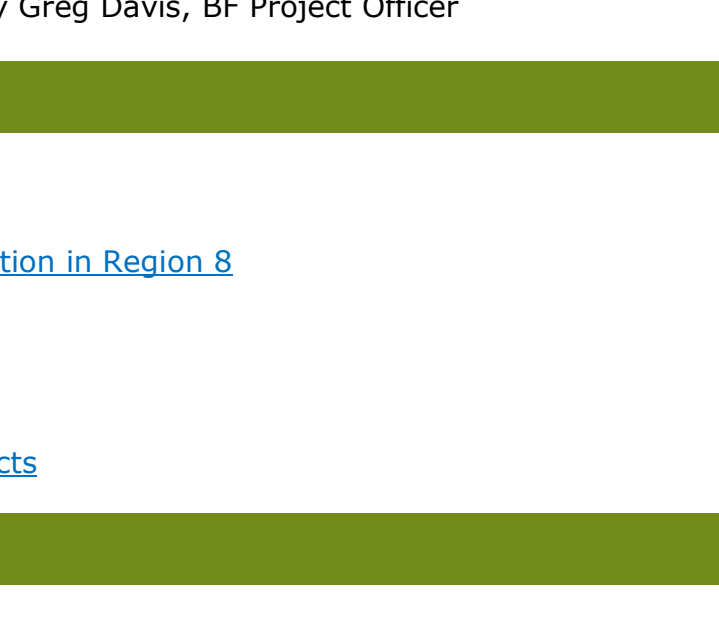
Above images: Before and after of house that was a part of the cleanup.

**Cleanup and Demolition of Lashkowitz Building in Fargo, North Dakota, Clears Way for Affordable Housing**

Fargo Housing and Redevelopment Authority (FHRA) provides safe, affordable homes to individuals and families with lower and moderate incomes to empower the community through housing. In May 2023, FHRA was awarded a \$2 million EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant to fund remediation of the Lashkowitz building including the abatement of over 588,000 square feet of asbestos-containing material, lead-based paint, universal waste, and other hazardous materials. The building was demolished via an implosion (see a video of the implosion [here](#)) and will be replaced by the Lashkowitz Riverfront, a 110-unit affordable, deed and income-restricted, rental apartment building with construction set to begin in July 2024.



Above image: Exterior of Lashkowitz building before demolition.



Above image: rendering of future development.

**Brownfields Accomplishments**

The Brownfields accomplishments for the combined Region 8 states thus far for this fiscal year (October 2023 – April 2024) are impressive. Thank you to all partners and communities who contribute to these wonderful results.

					
<b>224</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>\$32M</b>
Assessments Completed	Cleanups Completed	Acres Ready for Reuse	Properties Made Ready for Reuse	Jobs Leveraged	Dollars Leveraged

**Kansas State University - Technical Assistance to Brownfields (KSU TAB)**

As many may know, KSU TAB provides no cost technical assistance to communities through workshops, webinars, trainings, and more.

The KSU Tab is excited to announce that Kate Lucas has joined the KSU TAB team as the Assistant Regional Director for EPA Region 8. In her new position, Kate will expand her TAB connections, experience, and expertise beyond Colorado to all Region 8 States, Tribes, and Communities.

Folks may reach out to Kate or Maggie to request assistance or learn more.

Maggie Belanger: [maggiejessie@ksu.edu](mailto:maggiejessie@ksu.edu), 785-532-0782  
 Kate Lucas: [katelucas@ksu.edu](mailto:katelucas@ksu.edu), 817-565-2885

Learn more about the KSU TAB resources [here](#).

**Cañon City StoryMap**

Read our new [Cañon City StoryMap](#) that dives into the past and future of this historical town as it updates and transforms its economy with the help of EPA Brownfields grants that are supporting community revitalization efforts at key points along the way. From an Assessment Grant, to LRTA projects, a Targeted Brownfields Assessment, to a Multipurpose Grant, Cañon City is utilizing EPA Brownfields grants and technical assistance to bring new life and vibrancy to parts of the community that are difficult, if not impossible, to redevelop.

**Highlights from Meetings, Workshops, and Conferences**

**Snowy Mountain Development Corporation Workshop**

In September 2023, Snowy Mountain partnered with KSU-TAB, EPA, Montana DEQ and MBAC for a 2-day Workshop in Lewistown, Montana. The robust agenda featured an Intro to Brownfields, How to Get an RLF Program Off the Ground, Admin and Fundamentals of the Program, and more.

**Tribal Response Program Workshop**

On November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, over 25 Tribal Brownfields grantees from Regions 7 and 8 met in our Region 8 Denver office to share success stories and learn effective strategies for managing Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding for Tribal Response Program grants. The workshop featured "topic talk" sessions, which provided an opportunity for participants to break out into small groups to discuss challenging aspects of Brownfields grants such as community engagement, working with tribal councils, creative ways to use BIL funds, and succession planning. Special thanks to Kansas State University (KSU) who co-hosted the event.



**Region 8 Grantee Meeting**

On April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in our Region 8 Denver office, we held a grantee meeting that drew 61 participants, including representatives from all six R8 states, several economic development associations, Tribes and nonprofits. The two-day meeting focused on grantee case studies, post-award monitoring and compliance, training for audits, hiring, and managing contractors, quality assurance, historic preservation, lead -safe demolition, and reporting in EPA's ACRES database. It was a great success for grantee-to-grantee networking opportunities. [More Info](#).

**Colorado Brownfields Conference**

Our Region 8 team took part in the Colorado Brownfields Conference on May 1st in Arvada, CO which featured a wide array of engaging sessions ranging from overcoming hurdles in the redevelopment process, building partnerships for success, finding funds to assist in Brownfields cleanups, and more. Our very own Greg Davis, Barbara Benoy, and Stacey Erickson were among the presenters. Session presentations are available [here](#).



Left image: R8 BF team from left: Erin Joyce, Joann Jeplawy, Curt Jeffries, Christina Wilson, Andrew Riddle, and Phylcia Allen.

**Team Building and Volunteering with Denver Parks and Recreation**

On April 22nd for Earth Day, members of our Region 8 team and other EPA staff joined Denver Parks and Recreation at Montbello Central Park in Denver to mulch trees and remove debris to ensure this park remains well maintained for recreational use. It was a beautiful spring day and a wonderful way to celebrate the earth!

**Welcome to our New EPA Region 8 Team Members**

Please welcome Andrew Riddle and Kate Gregory who started on our team earlier this year.

**Andrew Riddle** recently transferred from Atlanta (Region 4), where he also served as a Brownfields Project Manager. He has undergraduate degrees in biology and chemistry along with a Masters in Public Health.

**Kate Gregory** is a new Brownfields Project Officer and has worked at EPA for almost 17 years. She has experience in energy efficiency in the built environment, air quality planning and environmental justice.

**Environmental Haiku**

Fear of the unknown  
 Brownfields cleanup and planning  
 Eyesores to assets  
 Richest Hill on Earth  
 Generational cleanup  
 Invested in BFTE

-Written by Greg Davis, BF Project Officer

**Helpful Links**

- [Brownfields and Land Revitalization in Region 8](#)
- [FAQs about Brownfields](#)
- [Past Editions of WBWire](#)
- [EPA Region 8 Brownfields Contacts](#)

**Contact Us**

For more information about U.S. EPA Region 8 Brownfields Program, please visit: [the Region 8 Brownfields Webpage](#), [Region 8 Brownfields contacts](#) or contact [Erin Joyce](#) with the EPA Region 8 Brownfields Team.

