



ADDRESSING HAZARDOUS CONTAMINATION

Free Assistance Program for Property Owners and Prospective Developers

We have an EPA grant! The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (RPC) has received \$200,000 from the EPA to assess hazardous waste contaminated sites in our Region. Our goal is to help properties that are vacant or underutilized because of possible hazardous contamination get put to productive use again. We will assist property owners, prospective developers and municipalities by conducting environmental studies to find out whether a property really is contaminated, to what extent, and how to clean it up so that the property can be redeveloped.

We need your help! The Region has many properties that were used for industrial operations such as machine tool shops and mills that used hazardous contaminants in their daily operations. Many of these contaminants, including PCBs, pose a significant risk to the environment. Our grant allows us to hire a qualified consultant in order to perform various environmental assessments of the property. The RPC can also provide technical assistance by navigating through state and federal regulations that may apply as well as researching state funding sources to help pay for cleanup activities.

First steps! We need to identify properties that have redevelopment potential that would benefit the public by promoting community or economic growth. Please let us know if you or your town is interested in this program, if you know of a hazardous site, or if you know of a developer seeking a site for redevelopment which fits this description.

for more information contact:

Joelle Greenland, Brownfields Coordinator, or April Harkness, GIS Planner at 802-674-9201 or jgreenland@swcrpc.org or aharknes@swcrpc.org.

Additional Information/Resources:

<http://epa.gov/region1/brownfields/index.htm>

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/sms/brownfields-home.htm>

<http://www.swcrpc.org/subpage.php?file=content/brownfields.htm>

GRANT IN ACTION!

Through our Hazardous Grant, we recently were able to financially assist a non-profit company in entering the state's environmental liability limitation program which was established under the Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act (BRELLA) codified at 10 V.S.A. §6641. Participation in the program is open to persons who intend to purchase a brownfields property, as well as persons who already own a brownfields property, provided that they did not cause or contribute to the contamination. Primary benefits of the Program are limitation of environmental liability and access to financial assistance. Eligible properties are those that are vacant or underutilized and that are believed to have existing environmental contamination. BRELLA also provides access to low interest loans for cleanup and confers priority treatment for other brownfields assistance.

For additional information on BRELLA contact Don Einhorn, Brownfields Project Manager, DEC, at (802) 241-1093.

