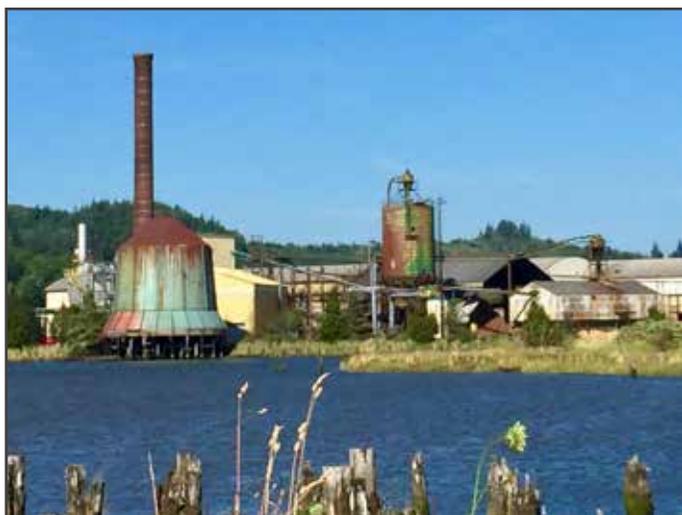


What is a **Brownfield**?

Sites that are, or may be perceived to be, contaminated. Brownfields are vacant and underutilized properties previously used for industrial or commercial activities that may have resulted in contamination from petroleum or hazardous substances. Often seen as eyesores, these sites may consequently stall an area's progress and development. Brownfields can also be seen as **redevelopment opportunities** with the potential to transform community liabilities into assets through revitalization that brings new life to an area.

What are the **program goals**?

- Support local economic development initiatives via brownfield reuse and revitalization projects that stimulate investment and provide new employment opportunities.
- Transform blighted areas into safe, viable spaces that enhance our neighborhoods.
- Analyze and identify solutions for a range of problems posed by brownfield sites, from environmental contamination to potentially dangerous built environments to negative public perception of an area.
- Restore the environment and protect human health.
- Create partnerships that will leverage successful future development efforts.
- Use public input to identify priority redevelopment areas and sites.



Community Member Fact Sheet

Brownfields Site Reuse & Revitalization Program

Grays Harbor Council of Governments Coalition

Why is **your input** needed?

A pool of great ideas and visions and observations of opportunities help local municipalities and potential developers realize community desires, needs and possibilities. Community input serves as the foundation for creating a clear path forward that ultimately leads to restoring abandoned and blighted properties currently detracting from investment. Over the long-term, making these sites attractive to developers will stimulate local investment, create jobs, increase access to local amenities, and improve overall public perceptions for our community.



Frequently Asked Questions

Who is managing the program?

A Coalition lead by the Grays Harbor Council of Governments (GHCOG) and supported by the Cities of Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Cosmopolis is overseeing the program.

The Coalition will work with property owners, developers and other community stakeholders to identify and prioritize brownfield sites in need of environmental site assessments (ESAs) and/or cleanup/reuse plans to support redevelopment. Participation is voluntary.

How is the project funded?

The project is funded by a \$600,000 Brownfields Assessment Grant awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What can grant funds be used for?

Grant funding can be used for environmental site assessments and/or developing site cleanup/reuse plans that support property sale or redevelopment activities for priority sites.

What sites are eligible for grant funds?

Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis. Eligible sites may include (but are not limited to):

- Former manufacturing & industrial sites (e.g. shuttered mills, former canneries, etc.)
- Vacant or underutilized warehouses & commercial facilities (e.g. aging strip malls)
- Vacant gas stations & auto repair shops
- Former dry cleaners
- Old rail yards & truck depots
- Salvage yards, landfills & illegal dump sites
- Buildings with asbestos or lead-based paint

Sites included on the EPA National Priority "Superfund" List, under a Consent Decree with the state, or targeted for any federal or state enforcement action are not eligible for grant funding.



What are the program requirements and timeline?

Sites will be prioritized based on several factors, including redevelopment potential. Prioritized sites must meet certain eligibility requirements to qualify for grant funding.

The Coalition will submit an eligibility request to EPA on the owner's behalf. If approved, the property owner will work with Stantec (the environmental consultant managing grant implementation) to coordinate the environmental assessment and/or related activities. The owner will receive a report with findings and recommendations.

The program and funding is committed through September 2020.

How do I obtain additional information?

For information or to submit a site for grant funding consideration, contact:

Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
Grays Harbor Council of Governments

Phone: (360) 537-4386

Email: vcummings@ghcog.org

Website: <http://www.ghcog.org/brownfield.html>

Para solicitar información en español contáctese vcummings@ghcog.org.

Disclaimer: Although this project has been funded wholly or in part by the EPA, the contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA.

