

METROHARTFORD BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Summary	The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has been awarded funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to continue the environmental assessment of sites, known as “brownfields,” that may be contaminated by hazardous substances or petroleum products.
Scope	The program will fund environmental assessments in the 35-municipality region of greater Hartford (see list of participating municipalities below).
Duration	October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2010
Goals	Promote healthy communities and ecosystems by identifying sites that can benefit from environmental clean up. Because MetroHartford is an urbanized region with an industrial heritage, brownfield remediation and redevelopment often has an immediate and positive impact on surrounding neighborhoods, which contributes to the health and vitality of communities in the region. The thorough assessment of sites is the first step toward environmental clean up and redevelopment.
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that municipal officials and community residents have opportunities to comment on proposed activities;• Continue the momentum for brownfield redevelopment activities now underway in East Hartford, Hartford, Bloomfield and other communities that may benefit from the program;• Provide funds to handle increased interest in the brownfields assessment program as more communities seek to use these funds to identify potential contamination issues, define remediation strategies, and bring properties back to productive use.
Principal Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community outreach and involvement;2. Steering Committee participation;3. Identification of candidate sites;4. Site evaluation and selection;5. Site assessment and remediation planning;6. Oversight, program development and implementation.
Process	The Regional Brownfields Steering Committee, which consists of community and municipal participants, will continue as the focal point for public involvement. Additional representatives will be added to the committee to reflect the growing scope of the program.
Funding	\$200,000 for petroleum sites; \$200,000 for hazardous substance sites.
Background	The MetroHartford program is a joint project of CRCOG and the MetroHartford Alliance (MHA). Previous awards from EPA include a \$200,000 petroleum assessment grant in 2004 and a \$200,000 hazardous substance assessment grant in 2005.
Participating Municipalities	Andover, Avon, Berlin, Bloomfield, Bolton, Burlington, Canton, Cromwell, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Hartford, Hebron, Manchester, Mansfield, Marlborough, New Britain, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, Somers, South Windsor, Stafford, Suffield, Tolland, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks.
Accessibility	CRCOG’s Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Guidelines will be applied to all brownfields outreach activities. Meetings will be held in ADA compliant facilities.
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