

Brownfield

Communities Network



Revitalizing America's Communities

The Brownfields Challenge

Brownfields are the abandoned or under-utilized warehouses, factories, gas stations, salvage yards, vacant lots, contaminated properties, and other eyesores that plague virtually every community in America. It is estimated that there are more than 500,000 of these properties nationwide. They cause blight to neighborhoods, inhibit economic development, threaten public health and the environment, and encourage urban sprawl.

During the past decade, local communities have played a critical leadership role in the national movement to clean up and reuse brownfields. Localities are uniquely situated to facilitate the reuse of these properties by engaging public, private, and community stakeholders in brownfields revitalization. The long term success of our nation's ability to revitalize our communities depends on the ongoing ability of local governments to continue to provide leadership and develop new approaches to implement brownfields reuse.

The Brownfield Communities Network

Founded by a group of the nation's leading local brownfield leaders, the Brownfield Communities Network is a national network of local communities working to demonstrate how the cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated property can be an effective tool for community revitalization.

Despite the great progress in brownfields revitalization during the past decade, many communities are still not aware of the full range of public and private tools, resources, and partnerships available to help them successfully complete site revitalization projects. With the passage of the federal brownfields law, many localities are just now beginning to establish local brownfields programs and take advantage of the new resources and tools for reuse.

The Brownfield Communities Network is working to harness the substantial knowledge, expertise, and experience of the nation's leading brownfields communities developed during the past decade and export it to their peers.

The **Brownfield Communities Network** promotes the cleanup and reuse of brownfields by:

- ▶ Providing a forum for communities across the nation to overcome brownfield barriers and share lessons learned regarding tools, strategies, resources and partnerships;
- ▶ Providing technical assistance and training to local communities and other stakeholders;
- ▶ Showcasing examples of successful local brownfields programs and projects;
- ▶ Developing new approaches to overcome obstacles to brownfields reuse; and
- ▶ Communicating the views of local communities on state and national brownfields issues.

The map at right showcases a few examples of brownfields innovation across America.

Mission Statement: To empower localities to revitalize their communities through the exchange of strategies, tools, and best practices for brownfields reuse.



Who Should Join?

The Network will provide support to local communities who are new to brownfields redevelopment, as well as those with well-established brownfields programs. Brownfield Communities Network Members include:

- Cities, counties, towns, townships, and other local government entities;
- Local and regional economic development corporations, redevelopment authorities, community development corporations, economic development and planning districts, and other quasi-governmental organizations; and
- Tribes that are involved in brownfields cleanup and redevelopment.

Benefits of Membership

As a member of the Network you will have the opportunity to:

- Engage in **peer dialogues** with leading brownfields experts on the challenges facing your community;
- Participate in **bi-monthly tele-conferences** on emerging brownfields issues and opportunities;
- Receive updates on brownfield **grant opportunities**, profiles of **innovative approaches**, and updates on national **policy issues**;
- Join **focus groups** on specific issues such as portfields, railfields, salvage yards, and rural sites;
- Participate in the annual **Local Brownfields Summit**, which connects local officials with key state and federal decision makers in Washington, DC;
- Receive a complimentary copy of NALGEP and NEMW's report on **successful strategies for brownfields reuse**; and
- Sign-up for a free 6 month trial NALGEP Membership.



Network Partners

Other brownfields stakeholders who are critical to the success of local brownfields projects and programs are participating in the Network as partners. Network Partners provide technical support and assistance and have the opportunity to learn from and partner with local entities. Eligible Network Partners include:

- **Federal agencies** involved in local brownfields reuse;
- **State environmental and economic development agencies**;
- **Non-profit organizations** providing brownfields assistance to local communities; and
- **Private developers, consultants, financiers, and other brownfields related businesses.**

Network Leadership

National Advisory Council

The nation's leading local brownfields experts comprise an advisory council that will shape the priorities and focus of the Brownfield Communities Network and provide expertise on pressing brownfields revitalization issues facing localities.

NALGEP & Northeast-Midwest Institute

The Brownfield Communities Network is coordinated by the National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals (NALGEP), with support from the Northeast-Midwest Institute. The two organizations are well-recognized as national leaders in the brownfields arena, and have played a major role in shaping brownfields programs and policies at the local, state, and federal levels.

Join Today!

Fill out the enclosed **Brownfield Communities Network participation form** and mail or fax it to **NALGEP** at:



National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals (NALGEP)
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 638-6254 • Fax: (202) 393-2866 • Email: nalgep@spiegelmc.com



1 Portland, OR: By recycling the long-vacant “Old Carnation Dairy” into a high-density, mixed-use, energy-efficient housing and retail development, Portland and its private partners have helped revitalize the City’s Sunnyside neighborhood and Belmont Business District.



2 Evanston, WY: This rural community of 12,000 is converting a rail facility/roundhouse, built in 1913 by Union Pacific, into a museum and industrial business park to bring higher paying jobs to the area and reconnect sections of the city that have been fragmented by rail operations.



3 Rochester, NY: A former automobile dealership and service garage in downtown Rochester was turned into the Chevy Place coffeehouse and a 77 unit residential development of townhouses and apartments.



4 New Bedford, MA: Ft. Tabor Park is a former coast guard facility with soil contamination issues. The park was remediated and redeveloped as a coastal city park and state-of-the-art wastewater treatment facility that has significantly reduced nutrient discharges to Buzzards Bay.



11 East Palo Alto, CA: The Gateway 101 Project has attracted new businesses, created new jobs, enhanced tax revenues, and sparked an eight-fold increase in property values in this low-income community of 30,000.



10 Salt Lake City, UT: The Gateway District Revitalization is rejuvenating a 650-acre, blighted industrial district into a mixed-use urban neighborhood with a nexus of transportation modes, a growing employment base, parks, and community-oriented facilities.



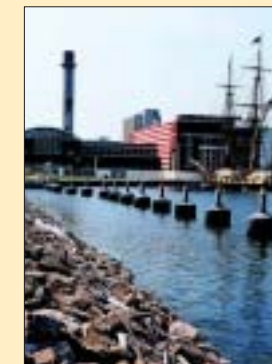
9 Houston, TX: The Downtown Aquarium, a world-class aquatic entertainment, dining, and meeting complex was built on a 7-acre brownfield site that was previously home to Houston’s Fire Station No. 1 and the Central Waterworks plant.



8 St. Louis, MO: The St. Louis Commerce Center is attracting businesses like GPX, Inc., a consumer audio electronics company, with state brownfields tax incentives.



7 Nashville, TN: Nashville Coliseum, home to the NFL’s Tennessee Titans, was built on an industrial brownfields site along the Cumberland River and has sparked the revitalization of Nashville’s waterfront.



5 Erie, PA: A former shipping wharf is being transformed into Bayfront Centre, a \$117 million mixed-use development featuring a maritime museum, library, civic auditorium, hotel, commercial space, a marina, and a residential area.



6 Baltimore, MD: The former east coast distribution center for Montgomery Ward is now a 26-acre “green” redevelopment that has leveraged over \$60 million in private investment, will generate over 3,000 jobs, and is the new home to the Maryland Department of the Environment.

NALGEP is a nonprofit organization representing the nation’s leading city and county environmental managers. During the past decade, NALGEP has played a major role in shaping brownfields programs and policies at the local, state, and federal levels. NALGEP has led numerous national brownfields research and technical assistance projects, and specializes in communicating technical brownfields concepts to a diverse range of stakeholders in a way that empowers and motivates practitioners to put the ideas into action in their communities.

The Northeast-Midwest Institute is a Washington-based, nonprofit, research organization dedicated to economic vitality, environmental quality, and regional equity for Northeast and Midwest states. For more than a decade, the Institute has been at the forefront of brownfield policy development, identifying the impacts of federal and state policies and programs on community revitalization efforts and suggesting opportunities for improvement.

For more information, please contact:



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218 D Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
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Web: www.nemw.org

U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee (RI)

“As sponsor of the federal brownfields law, I am very pleased to see the creation of the Brownfield Communities Network. This is exactly the kind of organization needed to help communities take advantage of the brownfields tools and resources provided by the new law.”

Marianne Horinko, Acting Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

“EPA is pleased to be a sponsor and partner of the Brownfield Communities Network. We look forward to continuing to work with NALGEP and the Northeast-Midwest Institute as they provide assistance to the many communities seeking to reuse their brownfields.”

Mayor Richard M. Daley, City of Chicago, IL

“Chicago has been at the forefront of brownfields reuse for the past decade. We are pleased to be a founding member of the Brownfield Communities Network and look forward to sharing the lessons we have learned with other localities around the country.”

Mayor Patricia Foster, City of East Palo Alto, CA

“As Mayor of a small community with substantial unemployment and social challenges, we see brownfields reuse as a key tool for creating new opportunities for our citizens. The Brownfield Communities Network will provide the support and assistance cities like ours need in order to achieve our dreams.”

Evans Paull, Brownfields Director, Baltimore Development Corporation, MD

“Local brownfield managers share many of the same challenges as we seek to revitalize our communities. The Brownfield Communities Network provides an important vehicle for local officials to share information on what works and to join together to develop new brownfields approaches and solutions.”

Lucy Auster, Senior Planner, King County, WA

“I have worked closely with NALGEP and the Northeast-Midwest Institute for several years as part of the Brownfields Showcase Communities Network. Their expertise and support has been extremely valuable, and I look forward to working with them as we build a powerful network of local brownfields officials across the country.”



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Environmental Professionals (NALGEP)
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Washington, DC 20036

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Join Today! Free Membership

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Other participants from your community:

Name _____

Contact Info (if different from above) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Has your community received an EPA brownfields grant? Yes No

I am joining the Brownfield Communities Network as:

A Community Representative A Non-Profit Partner Federal or State Partner Private Sector Sponsor

You may join the Brownfield Communities Network by:

- Faxing this to the National Association of Local Government Environment Professionals (NALGEP) at 202.393.2866
- Visiting us online at www.nalgep.org.
- E-mailing us at nalgep@spiegelmc.com

QUESTIONS? Please call NALGEP at 202.638.6254

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