



Indiana Brownfields Bulletin

August 2009

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2009 Midwestern States Risk Assessment Symposium to be held November 3-4 in Indianapolis

For those who work on the technical side of brownfield redevelopment and other environmental remediation projects, the 2009 Midwestern States Risk Assessment Symposium in Indianapolis offers a great opportunity to learn about many issues currently facing the risk assessment arena. Presentations and panel discussions will be offered on topics such as plume stability, vapor intrusion, nano-particles, and risk communication.

This year's event will be held on November 3-4 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. It is sponsored by the Midwestern States Environmental Consultants Association (MSECA) and the Indiana Petroleum & Environmental Contractors Association (IPECA) in association with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and Purdue University. Register before August 31 for reduced registration fees. For more information, visit <http://msras.org/> or contact Bill Greer at (888) 521-6802 or billgreer@mseca.org.

U.S. EPA brownfields grant deadline October 16

Have you begun preparing for the upcoming U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) brownfield grant round? U.S. EPA's Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) grant proposal deadline is October 16, 2009. For those interested in applying, there are resources that may be available to assist you.

The Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) program can review your draft proposal and provide invaluable advice and specific recommendations to improve your application. To request this free assistance, please contact Dr. Sabine Martin, P.G., at (785) 532-6474 or smartin1@k-state.edu.

Also, as mentioned on Page 3, if your community is served by a regional planning organization, it may provide grant writing assistance or services.

Another option is to contact an environmental

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The Indiana Brownfields Program is seeking partners for the upcoming U.S. EPA grant round. If you would like to join forces with the Program as a coalition member to request funding for assessment or cleanup for a specific brownfield project in your community, please contact Michele Oertel at (317) 234-0235 or moertel@ifa.IN.gov prior to September 11, 2009.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For up-to-date information about events relevant to brownfield redevelopment, please visit the Indiana Brownfields Program Web site: www.brownfields.IN.gov.

September 1-2, 2009

Statewide Conference on Housing and Community Economic Development
Indianapolis, IN
<http://www.instatewideconference.net>

September 15, 2009

Tapping into the Emerging Green Economy: Green Economic Development Strategies for Community and Brownfield Redevelopment
Indianapolis, IN
<http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/files/Sustainability.workshop9.15.09.pdf>

September 23, 2009

Deadline for Indiana Brownfields Program acknowledgment letter request forms to be submitted for the U.S. EPA brownfield grants
http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/files/EPA_Grant_Ltr_Request_09.doc

October 8, 2009

Sustainable Development: Building Green on Brownfield Sites
Chicago, IL
<http://www.brownfieldassociation.org/EducationTraining/tabid/59/Default.aspx>

October 13-15, 2009

Metropolitan Planning Organization Conference
Lafayette, IN
(765) 423-9242

October 16, 2009

Proposal Deadline for U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Cleanup, and Revolving Loan Fund Brownfield Grants
<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-ORCR-09-04>

November 3-4, 2009

2009 Midwestern States Risk Assessment Symposium
Indianapolis, IN
<http://msras.org/>

November 16-18, 2009

National Brownfields Conference
New Orleans, LA
www.brownfields2009.org

U.S. EPA brownfields grant deadline October 16

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consulting firm that has experience with writing successful U.S. EPA grant proposals. Be sure to check the firm's references and talk with past clients who received grant funding. Also, stay involved in the grant writing process and read through your final proposal well in advance of U.S. EPA's proposal deadline. For information on how to select an environmental consulting firm, please visit the Resources area of the TAB Web page (www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/outreach/tab/).

The key is to start early. The earlier that you form partnerships and seek assistance, the more likely you are to be successful in receiving funding.

Please be aware that U.S. EPA requires ARC grant applicants to obtain an acknowledgement letter from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. An acknowledgement letter request form is available on the Indiana Brownfields Program's Web site at http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/files/EPA_Grant_Ltr_Request_09.doc. This form is due to the Indiana Brownfields Program on September 23, 2009. For more information about requesting an acknowledgement letter, please contact Susan Tynes Harrington at (317) 233-1504 or sharrington@ifa.IN.gov.

Revolving Loan Funds available statewide for brownfield projects

Applications are now available to apply for zero or low-interest loans through the Indiana Brownfields Program's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) incentive. Approximately **\$2.4 million** is available for the cleanup of hazardous substances and petroleum-contaminated brownfield properties throughout the state. For more information or to download an application, please visit www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm and/or contact Michele Oertel at (317) 234-0235 or moertel@ifa.IN.gov.

Trails and Parks Initiative success

With the help of the Indiana Brownfields Program's Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI), Hoosiers are enjoying two new trails in Indiana. Opening ceremonies were recently held to celebrate completed trail segments in Bloomington and New Albany. TPI was used to perform environmental assessment activities at the trail sites before they were constructed.

New Albany's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Scribner Place segment of the Ohio River Greenway Project was held in May. A two-mile portion of the trail in New Albany and segments in Jeffersonville and Clarksville are now complete. When required match funding is secured for the federal stimulus funding that has been set aside for the project, construction will begin on a seven-mile riverfront multi-use path that will connect the three segments. Pedestrians and cyclists will then be able to travel the seven-mile river corridor from New Albany, through Clarksville, Jeffersonville, and across the Big Four Bridge to Louisville, Kentucky.

The grand opening of the first phase of the B-Line Trail in Bloomington was held in June. The B-Line Trail project was highlighted in the April 2009 issue of the *Brownfields Bulletin*, available on the Web at www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/files/Bulletin_April_09_FINAL.pdf.

The Indiana Brownfields Program has provided environmental site assessments for nine sites under TPI, which is funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency brownfield assessment grant funding and state matching funds. With approximately one year left in the grant period, less than one-third of the original funding is still available for assessment activities. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications as soon as possible to ensure consideration for the remaining funds. For more information about TPI or to download an application, please visit www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm.



Project consultants, supporters, and government officials join the Ohio River Greenway (ORG) Commission at the ribbon-cutting celebration for the new trail segment in New Albany.

The role of regional planning organizations in brownfield redevelopment

Regional planning commissions (RPCs), economic development districts (EDDs), regional planning organizations (RPOs), metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) — they have a variety of names, but are all examples of organizations that conduct regional planning and can help local governments with community development, economic development, housing, transportation planning, technical assistance, and other specialized programs such as environmental programs, mapping, and grants management. In Indiana, regional planning organizations have been very successful at obtaining U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) brownfield grants, performing brownfield inventory activities, and providing technical assistance to local governments as they address brownfield redevelopment projects.

In Indiana, there are 13 regional planning organizations that serve the local governments in their jurisdictions. They each offer a unique combination of services and expertise, and most can help their members with grant writing and grant administration. Working with an RPO could be a great opportunity for communities that lack the capacity or the expertise to tackle brownfield redevelopment challenges alone.

For more information about regional planning organizations in Indiana, please contact Anne Trobaugh, executive director of the Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC), at (317) 237-6200 or atrobaugh@citiesandtowns.org. For a map of IARC's member areas, please visit www.ind15rpc.org/IARC.mapofregions2009.pdf.



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The Indiana Brownfields Program offers educational, financial, legal, and technical assistance and works in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other stakeholders to assist Indiana communities in making productive use of brownfield properties.

Indiana Brownfields Program

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