



Indiana Brownfields Bulletin

April 2009

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U.S. EPA seeks input for green cleanup standard framework

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) cleanup programs plan to collaborate with ASTM International to develop a green cleanup standard through a consensus process. The U.S. EPA worked with its state partners to develop a draft framework that outlines desired outcomes for a green cleanup standard and will serve as a starting point for the consensus-based process. The standard will establish a uniform approach, implemented voluntarily, to encourage property owners, responsible parties, developers, and communities to use green cleanup practices during project planning and implementation. The U.S. EPA is now requesting input from all stakeholders to enhance the draft framework. The draft framework is available for review and input **through April 30** at http://clu-in.org/greenremediation/subtab_b5.cfm. The U.S. EPA plans to finalize and post the framework in June 2009. ASTM International established a subcommittee and will use U.S. EPA's proposed framework to kick off the effort. To learn more, go to <http://www.astm.org/DATABASE.CART/WORKITEMS/WK23495.htm>.

Elkhart County nationally recognized for site inventory and brownfield prevention

Elkhart County has been nationally recognized for its efforts to create an inventory for contaminated and potentially contaminated sites, using that inventory to identify brownfields, and working to prevent active businesses from becoming brownfields. The County's proactive approach to managing its current and potential brownfields was showcased at the national brownfields conference in 2008.

In 2006, a new County comprehensive plan called for better land use management. The goals of the comprehensive plan were to reduce urban sprawl, redevelop brownfield and other underutilized sites, provide incentives for brownfield redevelopment, and consider a brownfield inventory as a repository of economic development opportunities.

Elkhart County has an existing groundwater protection ordinance, the purpose of which is to prevent groundwater contamination by tracking sites where chemicals are used, inspecting facilities where hazardous materials are present, inspecting facilities where onsite wastewater systems are present, and educating workers and business owners about pollution prevention. Over 20 years of groundwater protection inspections conducted within the County generated thousands of pages of records that had become increasingly difficult to manage, and the County needed a data management system that would allow effective utilization of the data.

In an effort to help meet both its brownfield redevelopment goals and its environmental data management needs, Elkhart County decided to apply to the U.S. EPA for two brownfield grants.

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.

April 20, 2009

Nomination deadline for 2009 Indiana Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards

www.in.gov/idem/5147.htm

April 20, 2009

Application Deadline for U.S. EPA Brownfields Job Training Grants

www.epa.gov/brownfields/eparecovery/index.htm

April 23, 2009

Application deadline for U.S. EPA's Smart Growth Implementation Assistance 2009

http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/2009_sgja_rfa.htm

April 28-30, 2009

2009 International Conference on Deconstruction, Building Materials Reuse, and Construction and Demolition Materials Recycling

The Building Materials Reuse Association's Annual Conference
Chicago, IL

www.bmra.org/events/conference

May 1, 2009

2009 National Brownfields Conference Call for Ideas Deadline

www.brownfields2009.org/en/Article.9.aspx

May 8, 2009

Public Health Benefits of Sustainable Development Workshop

Co-hosted by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the U.S. EPA, and the Chicago Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association
Chicago, IL

https://home.comcast.net/~brody.tom/chisra/index_files/Page394.htm

June 23, 2009

U.S. EPA Webcast: Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure - Funding & Incentives and Brownfield Redevelopment

www.epa.gov/npdes/outreach_files/webcast_flyer_green_infrastructure.pdf

November 16-18, 2009

National Brownfields Conference
New Orleans, LA

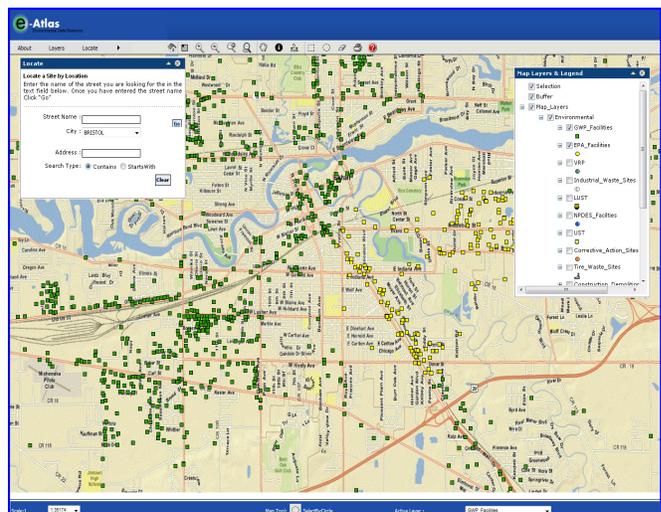
www.brownfields2009.org

Elkhart County nationally recognized for site inventory and brownfield prevention

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In 2006, the U.S. EPA awarded Elkhart County two \$200,000 Brownfield Assessment Grants to fund the County's unique plan to manage its existing data which included digitizing records, linking those records and external datasets to an existing geographical information system, and using a custom web-based software application to help inventory the sites. The site inventory software application that was designed is called e-Atlas and will be available to other stakeholders via the internet. The grant was also used to fund environmental site assessments at prioritized brownfield sites within Elkhart County. The County and the local governments located within the County currently use e-Atlas to score and prioritize brownfield sites for assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment. It is also used to manage environmental reports and documentation such as site inspections and Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments. e-Atlas has extensive querying capabilities that make it flexible and useful for many purposes.

Elkhart County encourages other government entities to learn more about e-Atlas on the Internet and consider the advantages that such a system could present to their communities. To view an e-Atlas demonstration, please visit <http://www.elkhartcountylanduse-reuse.com/e-atlas/>. For more information about Elkhart County's brownfield inventory efforts, please contact Laura Coyne at lcoyne@elkhartcounty.com.



Site Highlight: B-Line Trail in Bloomington

Bloomington residents will soon be able to take advantage of the warmer spring weather and enjoy a walk or bike ride on the new B-Line Trail. Construction of the first phase of the trail project is complete and will be opening to the public later this spring. When the entire project is finished, the multi-use pedestrian/bicycle trail will stretch 3.1 miles through downtown Bloomington on a former CSX rail corridor and will connect with another trail and existing park.

For over 100 years, the land that would become the B-Line Trail was used as a rail line. Extensive coal ash and cinder material was present throughout the property, and the soil was contaminated with metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). When CSX stopped using the line in 2004 and planned to abandon the property, the City of Bloomington took action to buy it, address the contamination, and transform the land into an asset to the community. The City utilized a variety of local, state, and federal funds to make the B-Line Trail a reality. A \$5.4 million Transportation Enhancement (TE) grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation funded the purchase of the CSX rail corridor, the master planning process for the corridor, and the construction of the first phase of the trail. The Indiana Brownfields Program issued a Comfort Letter to the City of Bloomington in 2005 addressing the City's environmental liability associated with acquiring the property. The Indiana Brownfields Program awarded the City an assessment grant in 2001 and a remediation grant in 2007 for environmental work for the first phase of the project. Remediation of the soil contamination was performed concurrently with the trail construction.

Development of the second phase of the trail is well underway. The environmental assessment is nearly complete, and the soil remediation and trail construction are planned to begin in fall 2009. Environmental assessment of phase two of the trail was funded with a Trails and Parks Initiative award from the Indiana Brownfields Program, and an additional Stipulated Remediation



The B-Line Trail under construction

Grant was awarded by the Program in February 2009.

Features of the completed trail include attractive lighting, signage, trees, benches, and bike racks. The trail will be used to display artwork and will provide gathering places for events in the community. It is hoped that businesses along the trail will benefit greatly from the increased traffic of pedestrians and cyclists, as is the case in many mixed-use trail projects across the country. In this way the B-Line Trail can provide fitness, recreational, and economic opportunities to the community.

For more information, please visit http://bloomington.in.gov/sections/viewSection.php?section_id=444 or contact Dave Williams of the City of Bloomington at williamd@bloomington.in.gov or Tracy Concannon of the Indiana Brownfields Program at tconcann@ifa.IN.gov.

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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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