

## Kansas Brownfields Program Collaborates with the City of Ottawa to Write an EPA Brownfields Grant

The Kansas Brownfields Program collaborated with the City of Ottawa to submit a Brownfields Assessment Grant application for the City. KDHE is seeking \$400,000 in community-wide assessment funding from EPA. The funding would be spent to assess hazardous substance and petroleum sites in Ottawa. The process is part of an annual national competition, so KDHE is competing against communities across the entire United States. The application was turned in on November 28, 2011, and the award will be announced sometime during spring or summer 2012.

Ottawa is the seat of Franklin County, and serves as the commercial, manufacturing, and educational hub of the area. However, recent construction of the US Highway 59 bypass reduced traffic through the downtown area. Businesses located along Main Street which once depended on highway travelers have suffered a loss of business. Furthermore, sprawl to the east and south of the city centered around the bypass and Interstate system require Ottawa to find innovative ways of promoting property reuse and preserve farmland.

*Reduce your plan to writing. The moment you complete this, you will have definitely given concrete form to the intangible desire.*

*Napoleon Hill*

*The time to begin writing an article is when you have finished it to your satisfaction. By that time you begin to clearly and logically perceive what it is you really want to say.*

*Mark Twain*

KDHE intends to use the grant assessment funds to evaluate three main areas within the heart of Ottawa: North Main Street, Downtown Main Street, and South Main Street. KDHE and Ottawa inventoried 33 Brownfields sites totaling 85 acres within these areas. KDHE is very excited to participate in this grant as the lead grant administrator and looks forward to the opportunity to support economic growth and sustainability in our State.

KDHE also supported four other Kansas grant applications: a Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant Application submitted by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and the Mid America Regional Council; an Assessment Grant submitted by the Fort Scott Riverfront Authority, a Revolving Loan submitted by Mo-Kan Regional Council, and an Assessment Grant submitted by the City of Chanute.



# Brownfields News

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## Kansas Brownfields Program Reaches Out to Cities and Counties

Last fall was full of outreach efforts by the Kansas Brownfields Program. October 8-9, 2011, KDHE exhibited at the 2011 League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference in Wichita, Kansas. The Brownfields Program was one of 125 vendors to set up a booth, and was available throughout the weekend to assist City representatives with potential redevelopment objectives.

The 35th Annual Kansas Association of Counties Conference and Exhibition was held on November 14-15, 2011, in Topeka. The turnout and interest through this conference was a tremendous. The Brownfields Program was able to network with and reach out to a large number of local government leaders and decision makers.



# Brownfields News

*For every site there is an ideal use. For every use there is an ideal site.*

*John Ormsbee Simonds*

## Kansas Brownfields Program Holds Workshop at Environmental Conference

The Kansas Brownfields Program conducted a one-day State-wide Brownfields workshop at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka on August 16, 2011. The Workshop, titled “Brownfields: Resources for Redevelopment in Kansas Communities,” was well received. Nearly 60 people participated, representing groups including but not limited to: local government, economic development organizations, commercial real estate brokers, and community groups. Speakers from KDHE, EPA, Kansas State University, Terracon, Burns & McDonnell, Geotechnical Services, and the Cities of Kansas City, Wichita, and Leavenworth all presented.

The presentations focused on identifying state, federal and other available financial resources that encourage local development of underutilized properties and job creation. You can download copies of the presentation materials from [http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/outreach/tab/workshops/2011BFTopeka\\_KS.html](http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/outreach/tab/workshops/2011BFTopeka_KS.html)

## Upcoming Outreach Event

The Kansas Brownfields Program has graciously accepted an invitation to present a one hour breakout session at the Kansas Rural Water Association Annual Conference to be held in Wichita on March 27-29, 2012. The session will focus on the Brownfields Program and its relevance to water districts. Often Cities or water districts may find it necessary to acquire or reuse a property for water/wastewater projects. Doing your due diligence in advance can pay huge dividends in the long run with respect to environmental liabilities. The Kansas Brownfields Program stands ready to assist water districts by providing a means of evaluating potential environmental issues.

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## Brownfield Targeted Assessments In High Demand for Kansas Communities

Kansas communities continue to take advantage of the free assessments offered through the Kansas Brownfields Program. In 2011 49 Brownfield Targeted Assessment applications were received by the Brownfields Program. 391 acres of land were assessed and 163 acres were cleared for redevelopment. The Brownfields Program completed 45 Phase I assessments and 27 Phase II assessments. Phase II assessments are required if concerns are identified during the Phase I and involve soil and/or groundwater sampling to determine if contaminants actually exist on a property.

The following table identifies the Kansas Communities that benefited from the BTAs.

ANTHONY	GREAT BEND	MOUND CITY
ARKANSAS CITY	HERINGTON	NEODESHA
ATCHISON	HIAWATHA	NEWTON
BELOIT	HOISINGTON	NORCATUR
BUCKLIN	HUTCHINSON (3 properties)	PARSONS
CALDWELL	INDEPENDENCE (2 properties)	PITTSBURG
CHETOPA	INMAN (2 properties)	RESERVE
CLAY CENTER	JETMORE	SALINA (3 properties)
COFFEYVILLE	KANSAS CITY	STERLING
COOLIDGE	LEAVENWORTH (4 properties)	SYLVAN GROVE
DERBY (2 properties)	MARYSVILLE	
GARNETT	MISSION (4 properties)	

*Don't wait for anyone to deputize you or authorize you or empower you. You have to just start out with yourself...and put one foot in front of the other.*

*Hazel Henderson*

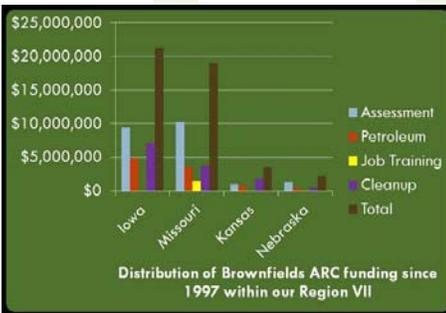
*Forewarned, forearmed; to be prepared is half the victory.*

*Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra*



# Brownfields

## Federal Funds Lacking for Kansas



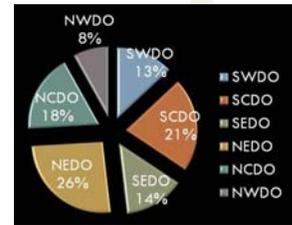
Since 1997 funding awarded to the four states within EPA Region VII has been unevenly distributed. Out of \$46 million awarded since 1997, Kansas has received only \$3.5

million -- 8%. Federal funding is essential to promoting redevelopment through assessment, planning, and cleanup opportunities. Kansas communities received no federal Brownfields competitive grant funding for 2011 despite submitting applications totaling \$2 million.

## Brownfields 2013 Heads to Atlanta!

The 15th National Brownfields Conference is headed to Atlanta, Georgia on May 15–17, 2013. The Conference, cosponsored by U.S. EPA, is the largest and most comprehensive event in the nation focusing on issues important to community revitalization and assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of contaminated properties.

Brownfields 2013 offers diverse educational opportunities including panel sessions, marketplace roundtables, mobile workshops, film screenings, plenary events, an exhibit hall and a redevelopment forum. Stay tuned to [www.brownfieldsconference.org](http://www.brownfieldsconference.org)!



## Total Brownfield Targeted Assessments by District

District	Brownfields Assesments
South West	32
South Central	53
South East	34
North East	64
North Central	44
North West	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>247</b>

