



Kansas Brownfields News

KDHE's Brownfields News is published to share brownfields success stories throughout the state of Kansas.

2008 KDHE Brownfields Workshops

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) invites you to attend "Reclaiming our Communities – the Kansas Brownfields Program." KDHE is sponsoring four regional workshops for communities in Kansas at the following locations in 2008.

Lawrence, Kansas – April 2, 2008
Coffeyville, Kansas – April 3, 2008
Hays, Kansas – April 16, 2008
Salina, Kansas – April 17, 2008



Based on comments received by KDHE from 2005 attendees, the workshop format and content has been revised. Some highlights;

- More 'hands-on' and 'how to' working examples of brownfields located in Kansas;
- All presentations & materials on an interactive CD that attendees can take home;
- More working sessions that apply the material presented; and
- We encourage you to bring possible real examples of properties from your community for the group to discuss.

Brownfields workshops are designed to provide attendees with basic knowledge regarding property eligibility and various funding opportunities. Workshops conducted in 2008 will also provide "hands-on" opportunities to utilize software developed to assist communities in brownfields redevelopment.

Who should participate? Anyone interested in redevelopment opportunities in their community. Typical participants include: municipalities, economic development agencies, certified development companies, and others with an interest in the redevelopment and reuse of underutilized property.

Check the KDHE Brownfields Web site (<http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/brownfields/index.html>) for specific times and registration information for these events.

For additional information regarding the 2008 KDHE Brownfields Workshops, please contact Doug Doubek at (785) 291-3246 or Whitney Rawls at (785) 296-5519.

To Register Contact:

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Riverfront Park at DeSoto Boat Ramp BTA

In early October 2005, Phase I BTAs were completed at two properties located in DeSoto, Kansas. Phase I assessments did not identify any environmental concerns on the western property, where a sand-dredging facility had operated for several years. Based on these findings, the city began design and construction of a boat access ramp on the south side of the Kansas River as well as the Riverfront Park.

A Recognized Environmental Condition (REC) was identified for the eastern property due to historical and unregulated uses as a public dump site. A Phase II BTA was completed and approved in mid-March 2006 by KDHE in time for the public celebration of the boat ramp completion on the western property.

Based on data collected during the Phase II BTA, there were no significant environmental impacts identified at the eastern property, and therefore no additional environmental response was necessary. However, KDHE recommended that fill and dump areas present on the property be removed to eliminate potential safety hazards to workers building the city park and future recreational users. The city coordinated with KDHE's Bureau of Waste Management to allow for safe redevelopment of the eastern portion for recreational use.

Funding for construction of the Riverfront Park overlooking the Kansas River in De Soto has been approved by the Johnson County Board of Commissioners. The funding authorization by the Board will be used by the city of De Soto to help finance phase one of its 50-acre Riverfront Park located along the banks of the river with a connection at Ottawa Street. The site of the park is on property of the former commercial sand dredging business operated by the Kaw Sand Company in the 1990s.



De Soto's concept plan of the park includes a stage for festivals, concerts, and other attractions; hiking and biking trails; an informational kiosk or monument with De Soto history; picnic shelters; playground equipment, including a disc-golf course and sand volleyball area; parking areas, including a site for recreational vehicles; public bathrooms; and shower facilities for campers and RV users.

The first phase of the project now is underway, including site clearing and rough grading for the regional festival and concert viewing area to accommodate up to 2,500 visitors. That work was to be completed by mid-February 2008.

Construction of a performing stage overlooking the Kansas River, grass seeding, and final grading work will start in March 2008 with completion by early summer. The first concert in the new Riverfront Park is scheduled October 11, 2008, featuring a Blues and Barbecue Festival.

Property for Sale?
List it on the
RedevelopKS Web
site!

www.redevelopks.org



State of Kansas
RedevelopKS Initiative

Helping Redevelop
Kansas Communities

Learn more by visiting www.redevelopks.org



The RedevelopKS Initiative has been developed to assist Kansas communities market potential brownfields properties for sale in their communities.

Brownfields News



Linking Girls to the Land - "Our Town" Camp

KDHE, along with local Resource Conservation & Development representatives, assisted the Girls Scouts of the Sunflower Council on July 12, 2007 at Fort Hays State University with a camp for fourth through sixth grades. The girls participated in "Our Town," a K-12 education program from Purdue University sponsored by a grant from the EPA, which engages students in the science and economics of brownfields. Participants learned how they can take an active role in rebuilding and cleaning up brownfield sites within their own communities. Whitney Rawls, KDHE, along with numerous environmentalists from Rooks, Ellis, and Rush counties presented the program to 39 participants. The girls watched *Silent Spring*, a movie about the early environmental movement in the United States, used the EPA's interactive Website, and watched *The Lorax*, a Dr. Seuss movie depicting basic environmental responsibilities. In the evening the girls visited a local brownfield site and then presented possible plans for redevelopment. A few of the girls' drawings are shown above.

For more information on the "Our Town" program please contact:

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Brownfields Listserv

KDHE has developed a listserv to provide regular updates to the public of new brownfields developments in the state as well as provide current updates of the federal brownfields program.



To sign up for the listserv, visit https://https://www.accesskansas.org/mailman/listinfo/brownfields_program

Brownfields News

2008 National Brownfields Conference To Be Held In Detroit, Michigan May 5-7

The National Brownfields Conference is the largest, most comprehensive conference focused on cleaning up and redeveloping abandoned, underutilized, and potentially contaminated properties in the nation. There is no better deal in the redevelopment marketplace than Brownfields 2008. Why? Because registration is free, and by signing up you gain access to more than 130 educational and learning opportunities, outstanding plenary sessions, 200 exhibitors, scores of networking events, special training sessions, film screenings, book signings, and much, much more.

There are plenty of ways that individuals and organizations can take advantage of all the educational and networking opportunities that Brownfields 2008 will present. Whether you're a newcomer to the world of economic and environmental redevelopment, or a seasoned professional looking to make new connections and increase your business Brownfields 2008 offers something for you.

Who should attend?

- Local, state, and federal government leaders
- Federal and state contractors
- Financial and insurance providers and risk management practitioners
- Economic development officials and community development organizations
- Environmental and civil engineers, planners, and public works officials
- Information technology professionals
- Academic institutions and students
- Real estate developers and investors
- Attorneys

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment was pleased to award Trey Cocking, the City of Cherryvale, Dennis Pruitt, Montgomery County Action Council; and Noel Hinz, Central Prairie Resource Conservation and Development, scholarships to attend the 2008 National Brownfields Conference to be held in Detroit, Michigan on May 5, 6, and 7, 2008.

For more information or to register for the 2008 National Brownfield Conference please visit:

<http://www.brownfields2008.org/en/index.aspx>



For more information on the Kansas Brownfields Program contact:

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