

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Brownfield Assessment Grants – Program Guidelines

Purpose

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has grant money available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to fund environmental assessments of Brownfield properties to support redevelopment and reuse. The work is performed by MPCA contractors at no cost to the grant recipients.

Eligible applicants

Eligible sites in Minnesota can be publicly or privately owned with known or suspected contamination. Applicants who are determined to be responsible for the release/contamination are not eligible.

Applicants include, but are not limited to:

- Community organizations
- Local units of government
- Emerging developers (developers who have completed five or fewer projects)
- Tribal entities

The MPCA seeks to fund projects

- In disadvantaged communities or areas of concern for environmental justice, when the project will benefit the existing neighborhood and avoid physical or cultural displacement.
- That provide community benefits and have community support.
- That create community greenspace.
- In small communities in Greater Minnesota.

Eligible activities

- Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments
- Sampling and analysis plans
- Hazardous materials building surveys to identify lead-based paint and asbestos containing materials
- Preparation of cleanups plans.
- Community engagement for reuse planning
- MPCA Brownfield Programs fees

The MPCA staff perform technical reviews and approve workplans, investigate reports, and cleanup plans to ensure that environmental concerns are properly addressed during site redevelopment. The MPCA also provides liability assurance and environmental closure letters, as appropriate, for contamination identified at the property.

Ineligible sites and activities

- Federal or State Superfund sites
- Closed permitted landfills
- Renovations or expansions for single family homes
- Building abatement that does not end in demolition
- Hazardous materials cleanup and/or abatement
- Cleanup actions
- Radon and mold abatement

Available funds

- \$Two million for 2022-2027 from the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which funds assessment work in areas of concern for environmental justice.
- Approximately \$90, 000 per year, made possible by national Brownfields legislation enacted in 2002.

How to apply

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis by submitting the application form found at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/grants-and-loans/grants-for-brownfield-investigation> to brownfieldgrants.MPCA@state.mn.us.

Contact us

Please call 651-757-2904 or email brownfieldgrants.MPCA@state.mn.us with questions.