



# Indiana Brownfields Bulletin

Summer 2010

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## Indiana Brownfields Program launches Auto Sector Brownfields Assessment Initiative

If you are a community affected by abandoned properties resulting from the downsizing of the recent automotive manufacturing sector, then the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) may be able to help. The Automotive Sector Brownfields Assessment Initiative (Auto Sector Initiative) developed by the Program provides site assessments and related environmental activities (excluding remediation) at eligible brownfields to help communities facilitate the redevelopment of auto dealerships and parts/supplier, assembly, and manufacturing plants that have been permanently idled or closed as result of the recent downsizing of the automotive manufacturing sector and for which redevelopment is hindered by actual or potential environmental contamination.

At this time, approximately \$350,000 in funding is available for Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments, asbestos-containing material and lead-based paint surveys, remediation work plan develop-

ment, limited demolition, site stabilization, and controlling site access/site security. A political subdivision can apply for assistance, as well as a private entity or individual under certain circumstances; an award of services made to a private applicant will require a match of a percentage of the award amount. Applicants will not receive a grant of funds; instead, the awarded professional services will be performed by consultants retained by the Program.

The Program is currently accepting applications on a rolling basis. Details regarding applicant and site eligibility criteria are included in the Auto Sector Initiative guidance and the application for the Indiana Brownfields Program Auto Sector Initiative located on the Program Web site at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm>. For more information or questions, please contact [Michele Oertel](#).

## U.S. EPA awards Indiana communities brownfield grant funding

Congratulations to these seven Indiana communities awarded U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) brownfield grants in the 2010 competitive round!

- City of Columbia City
- DeKalb County
- Evansville/Enterprise Zone Education and Training Center Corporation (EZETCC)
- City of Fort Wayne
- City of Goshen
- Pike County
- City of Terre Haute

Indiana received 11 assessment and cleanup grant awards totaling \$2,200,000. Compared to last year, the State experienced an increase in the number of nationally competitive U.S. EPA grants requested (especially cleanup grants), grants awarded, and awardees.

## Indiana ranks high in LUST stimulus funding progress

Indiana leads the way among the states in U.S. EPA Region 5 in meeting the substantial progress milestones of its Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) award through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). One of the terms and conditions of the ARRA LUST grant award requires that 35% of the funds be obligated and 15% of the funds be spent within nine months of issuance of the grant. As of March 31, 2010, Indiana had expended the highest percentage of its award – 25% – among U.S. EPA Region 5 states.

Since Spring 2009, the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program), on behalf of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)'s LUST Program, has been managing the ARRA funding for LUST activities. Indiana received a little over \$4 million of ARRA funding from the federal LUST Trust Fund, which it is utilizing to undertake corrective action on underground storage tank (UST) releases at eligible “shovel ready” LUST sites, many of which also qualify as brownfields. Monies are targeted for federally-regulated tanks where an emergency response is needed or where the responsible party is unknown, unwilling, or unable to pay for the cleanup.

To date, \$2,851,630.33, or 71% of the state’s total award is obligated; work is underway or completed at 15 sites statewide; and, the state has stimulated economic growth by expending \$1,236,680.12, or 31% of its LUST ARRA grant. A total of 29 USTs and 7631.77 tons of petroleum



LUST ARRA Site: Interstate Truck Plaza of America, Inc.  
6405 S.R. 17, Plymouth

impacted soil have been removed, with cleanup resulting in over six acres becoming ready for redevelopment. The Program’s goal for the sites funded with the ARRA grant is to achieve environmental closure in the form of an IDEM No Further Action (NFA) letter. In less than a year, seven sites have obtained or are close to obtaining closure

through the expenditure of LUST ARRA funds, and substantial progress has been made at the balance of sites at which corrective action was initiated last fall. For site summaries, please visit the Program’s Web site at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2662.htm>.

### REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR BROWNFIELD PROJECTS

Funds are still available for a zero or low-interest loan through the Indiana Brownfields Program’s Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) incentive. Interested public and private entities should contact the Program prior to submitting an application to learn the available balances of funding to cleanup hazardous substances and/or petroleum-contaminated sites. For more information or to download an application, please visit [www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm](http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm). For questions, please contact [Michèle Oertel](mailto:Michèle.Oertel@in.gov).

## Trails and Parks Initiative ending soon

Over the past three years, the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program), has provided Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments under the Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI) for 13 sites with hazardous substances and petroleum contamination. TPI is funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) brownfield assessment grant funding and state matching funds.

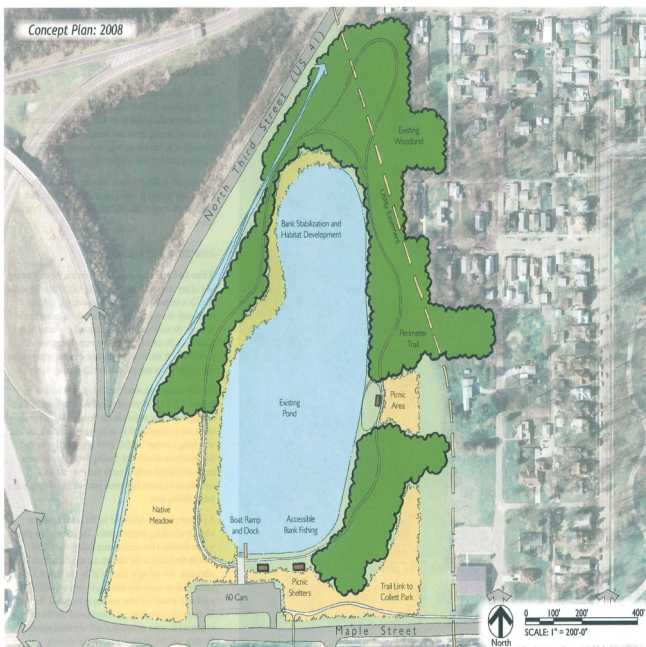
The following Indiana communities have benefited from TPI assistance since 2007:

- Bloomington, B-Line Trail Project
- Clinton, Former Clinton CSX Rail Depot Project
- Delaware County, Gas Station 1605 Main Street, Muncie
- Marion, Former Marion Salvage Yard
- Muncie, Former Gill Clay Pot Company Project
- Muncie, Gas Station 1605 Main Street
- New Albany, Ohio River Greenways Project
- Plainfield, Shouse Landfill Project
- Terre Haute, Brown Blvd. Project Locust Street Parcel
- Terre Haute, Former Nursing Home Project
- Terre Haute, National Road Heritage Trail Parcels
- Terre Haute, 500 Maple Ave. North Parcel
- Union City, Beanblossom Garage Project

TPI, continued from page 2

To date, the Program has succeeded in completing six Phase I assessments, 20 Phase II assessments, and one asbestos and lead-based paint survey, resulting in approximately 107.25 acres of land assessed with TPI funding. Both the Bloomington and New Albany trail projects are being developed; in Bloomington, 0.61 mile of the total planned 3.1 linear miles through the City is finished, and in New Albany, two of the total planned seven linear miles are completed along riverfronts of New Albany, Clarksville and Jeffersonville.

## Trails and Parks Success Story: Terre Haute



Maple Street Pond Park (courtesy of Terre Haute Parks Master Plan)

Residents in the City of Terre Haute can anticipate the opening of the 16.36-acre Maple Street Pond Park, which will consist of a fishing pond, trail, and park. Redevelopment of the former Lakeview Nursing Home site is due, in part, to financial assistance from the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program)'s Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI) that was used to conduct environmental assessment activities, and the Program's issuance of a Site Status Letter in January of this year.

This 7-acre northern parcel located at 500 Maple Avenue in Terre Haute was a vacant property used as a former dump/burn area for household waste up until the early 1960's, a borrow pit in the mid 1960's, and finally a nursing home in the 1980's. The former Lakeview Nursing Home was demolished several years ago, and in its place, the planned recreational facility will connect the Historic Collett Park Pathway, a major element of Terre Haute's greenway system, with Indiana State University, Union Hospital Health Group Campus, and Wabash Elementary School.



The current, ongoing focus of the Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan is "Going Green." Maple Street Pond Park will be a sustainable, low-maintenance recreational facility that would establish on-site accessible fishing, a parking lot, trail connectivity to the Historic Collett Park Pathway (an unpaved pathway planned to go around the lake), benches, and picnic shelters that would be constructed from recycled materials. The site is to be planted in native grasses/wildflowers to withstand periodic flooding, minimize mowing, and to promote sustainable maintenance practices. The City of Terre Haute currently uses and plans to incorporate infrastructure re-use for water pollution prevention activities, native landscaping, innovative storm-water/best management practices, construction debris/fill reuse, and the restoration of native plants and grasses as much as possible.

As a trailhead facility for the Historic Collett Park Pathway, the site will become an extension component of the National Road Heritage Trail, a backbone of the City of Terre Haute Trails and Greenway System. The National Road Heritage Trail is recognized by the State of Indiana as a "priority visionary trail" intended to extend from the Indiana-Illinois border to the Indiana-Ohio border, thereby linking to other trail and park systems across the entire State of Indiana. This Program-assisted project is part of the Terre Haute Parks Master Plan and will help the City continue its larger redevelopment/greenway efforts.

## Indiana Brownfields Program Seeking partners...

...for the upcoming U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) brownfield grant round. The application deadline has not yet been announced but is expected to be in the fall of 2010. If you would like to combine your brownfield endeavors with the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) as a partner or coalition member to request assessment and/or cleanup funding for brownfield projects in your community, please contact Michele Oertel by August 30, 2010. With the anticipated release of the new U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) grant proposal guidelines in August, it's not too early to begin preparing for the proposal process.

For those considering applying for a U.S. EPA grant, several resources and opportunities will be available to assist you. Look to the Program Web site for future announce-

*Partners, See page 4*  
[www.brownfields.IN.gov](http://www.brownfields.IN.gov)

## Partners, continued from page 3

ments about webinars, in-state training, and the required acknowledgement letter from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. In addition, the Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) program, a national program funded by the U.S. EPA, offers free assistance with project planning, contractor selection, and review and recommendations to improve your draft proposal, among other types of technical support. To request this free assistance, please visit the Resources area of the TAB Web site at <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/outreach/tab> or contact Dr. Sabine Martin, P.G., TAB Coordinator, at (785) 532-6474, [smartin1@k-state.edu](mailto:smartin1@k-state.edu).

Other options for grant writing assistance include utilizing the in-house expertise of a regional planning organization if your community is served by one or else hiring an environmental consulting firm. It is best if the firm has experience with writing successful U.S. EPA grant proposals and you are able to check references or past clients who received grant funding. Most importantly, regardless of the assistance and support provided, the applicant should be involved in the grant writing process and carefully review the final proposal prior to submitting it to U.S. EPA by the proposal deadline.

For more information about U.S. EPA's Brownfields ARC Grants, please visit [http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant\\_info/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm).

## Indiana Brownfields Program continues ROI Survey

It's that time of year again when the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) will be soliciting progress reports from Program participants through its annual Return on Investment (ROI) project survey in an effort to measure the benefits of brownfield redevelopment, such as funds leveraged, jobs created, and businesses created or retained. These surveys that gather information related to the Program's financial, legal, and technical assistance are important to help the Program evaluate and continue to improve its services to brownfield stakeholders, as well as to identify and showcase local success stories. The award of financial assistance in the future may depend on having completed surveys for your community's projects.

Program participants can complete and submit the one-page survey at any time during their redevelopment project. If you don't have a survey or misplaced it, no problem—a form is conveniently available on our Program Web site at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2354.htm>

Program staff will follow up as an ongoing effort to ensure the Program receives valuable feedback each year. So don't be surprised if you get a knock on your door this summer! We appreciate all of your past responses and thank you in advance for answering our call about this very important survey.

## 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](http://www.brownfields.IN.gov).

### July 30, 2010

#### **Deadline for Brownfields 2011 Conference Call for Ideas**

[http://www.brownfields2011.org/en/Login?ReturnURL=%2fen%2fcall\\_for\\_ideas](http://www.brownfields2011.org/en/Login?ReturnURL=%2fen%2fcall_for_ideas)

### August 19, 2010

#### **WORKSHOP: U.S. EPA Brownfield Grant Proposal Writing Strategies**

Indianapolis, IN

Workshop information will be available at [www.brownfields.in.gov](http://www.brownfields.in.gov)

### September 2, 2010

#### **WORKSHOP: Ball State University Brownfields**

Indianapolis, IN

Workshop information will be available at [www.brownfields.in.gov](http://www.brownfields.in.gov)

### September 2010

#### **WORKSHOP: Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA) Clearance Program**

1:00 PM EST

Indianapolis, IN

<http://www.in.gov/ocra/>

### October 2010

#### **Deadline for Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA) Clearance Program Applications**

<http://www.in.gov/ocra/>

### Fall 2010

#### **Deadline for U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant Proposals**

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>



**Brownfields  
Project  
Survey**

[click to Submit >>](#)

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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.

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