Reminder: Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants
Due December 19th

Brownfields assessment and cleanup grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). Applicants who received an assessment grant from EPA in FY14 are eligible to apply for FY15. Please visit EPA’s Brownfields website for more information.

Applicants needing an acknowledgement letter from DNR must request one no later than December 5, 2014. This letter simply acknowledges that DNR is aware the applicant plans to conduct assessment or cleanup activities and is planning to apply for federal grant funds to do so.

Review the “DNR acknowledgement letter” tab on the DNR federal brownfield grants webpage to see what information is needed for DNR to provide an acknowledgement letter for you. This webpage also identifies the appropriate DNR staff person to contact.

For tips on writing a successful proposal check out the EPA Brownfields Grant Writing Workshop Webinar, available on the DNR federal brownfield grants webpage under the grant basics tab.

National Brownfields Conference

The 16th National Brownfields Conference will be held in Chicago, September 2-4, 2015. Environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment will be the main focus of the 2015 conference. The conference typically includes dozens of educational sessions, opportunities for networking and business development as well as special events.

If you have an idea for a conference presentation, the call for abstracts has been extended to December 8, 2014. For more information visit the 2015 Brownfields Conference webpage.

Update on the Brownfield Study Group 2015 Report

The Brownfields Study Group is wrapping up its year-long effort to identify legislative and administrative modifications to help increase the number of cleanups in Wisconsin. A final report will be available in January 2015.

This external advisory group was created in 1997 and since then has helped shape Wisconsin’s remediation and redevelopment program into one of the best in the country.

For more information about the report, visit the 2015 Brownfields Study Group report webpage.
Governor Announces
Northern Wisconsin Economic Development Summit

Registration is now open for the 8th annual Governor's Northern Wisconsin Economic Development Summit, to be held in Minocqua, Dec. 4-5, 2014. The annual summit provides an opportunity to address the unique challenges and opportunities of Northern Wisconsin’s economy through a forum with the Governor's Cabinet, keynote speakers, and a series of workshops. This year’s agenda includes information on workforce development, technology, and regulatory reform.

For more information, including the agenda and registration, visit the official Northwoods Summit webpage.

RR Program Staff Updates

Saying Hello

Duane Klein, Administrative Policy Coordinator – Duane started at the DNR on October 20th. He previously worked at DATCP in the Ag Chem program for more than 20 years, as a hydrogeologist, engineer and supervisor. He brings a wealth of knowledge and a detail-oriented approach that will be a great complement to the RR Program.

Saying Goodbye

Loren Brumberg, Waste Management Specialist – Loren worked for the DNR for 30 years and has had a profound impact on nearly every aspect of this program in every corner of this state. He started his DNR career as an Environmental Specialist in the Wastewater Program, then became a permanent employee in the Waste Management Program where he gained statewide recognition pioneering the Waste Tire Program. When the tire program ended, Loren accepted a position in the burgeoning Brownfield program, most recently serving as the team leader for the Superfund Site Assessment Program and as a member of the Land Recycling team.

Brownfield News and Notes

Tanker truck spills 4,000 gallons of manure in southern Brown County.

Packers will soon begin demolition to team-owned properties adjacent to Lambeau Field.

Cleaning up Milwaukee’s 30th St. Corridor – The Land of Brownfields

ITRC Online Training Opportunities

December 2 - Integrated DNAPL Site Strategy

December 4 - Mining Waste Treatment Technology Selection
December 9 - Biochemical Reactors for Mining-Influenced Water

December 11 - Remedy Selection for Contaminated Sediments

December 16 - Groundwater Statistics for Environmental Project Managers