

Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services Awarded to the City of Chilton and Austin Management Services, LLC

On August 18, 2014 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) awarded Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services to the City of Chilton and Austin Management Services, LLC for environmental activities at the former Chilton Plating site located at 420 E. Main St. in Chilton.

This 4.4 acre site consists of four parcels situated on the South Branch Manitowoc River. The site was home to a plating company from 1961 until 2007. It has a long history of environmental issues, both on the site of the plating operation and on the adjacent parcels. In 2012, the U.S. EPA removed more than 300 drums and vats of hazardous waste used by the plating operation. In addition, Wisconsin DNR has utilized its resources to complete preliminary sampling at the site. The WAM award will assist the City with due diligence and defining the extent of contamination prior to acquisition. Knowing the extent of contamination and what is necessary for cleanup will help the City market the site for potential redevelopment.



The former Chilton Plating building in Chilton, Wis., along the South Branch Manitowoc River.

The WAM program, administered by DNR's Remediation and Redevelopment Program, provides local governments, closing businesses and potential buyers with no-cost Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at closed or closing industrial sites to help ready them for reuse or redevelopment. These awards are not grants, they are no-cost consulting services to the recipient, and therefore require minimal effort by the awardee. This program is especially useful for small towns because there is no match or project administration involved.

Applications can be submitted for the program at any time. Eligible sites include closed or closing manufacturing plants and vacant land with a history of manufacturing. Gas stations, dry cleaners, salvage yards and agricultural coops are not eligible. For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/wam.html. For more information on WAM or the Remediation and Redevelopment Program in Wisconsin, contact Darsi Foss, WDNR Bureau Director for Remediation and Redevelopment, at 608-267-6713.