

## Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services Awarded to the City of De Pere

On August 18, 2014 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) awarded Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services to the City of De Pere for environmental site investigation activities at the former O'Keefe property located at 1463 Red Maple Rd.

This 14.6 acre site consists of three parcels situated between Red Maple Rd. and American Blvd. The site has a history of manufacturing and industrial uses including welding and fabrication, steel recovery and building trades. The City purchased the property in 2001, demolishing the dilapidated buildings and initiating environmental assessment activities over the following decade. Portions of this site are enrolled in Wisconsin's voluntary contaminated site cleanup program, known as the Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE). The WAM award, and participation in VPLE, will help the City market the property for redevelopment, placing it back on the tax role and spurring redevelopment in the area.



Former buildings on the O'Keefe Property were demolished beginning in 2000.

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](http://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.