

## Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services Awarded to Redevelopment Authority of the City of Prairie du Chien

On January 24, 2014 the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) awarded Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services to the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) of the City of Prairie du Chien for site investigation activities at the National Decorated Metal site (aka Northern Engraving) located at 801 North Villa Louis Road.

This 10.4 acre site on the St. Feriole Island previously housed metal fabrication industries including metal finishing and painting. Portions of the site have been in use since 1917, with the entire site developed for industrial use by the 1930s. The site has been idle since 1965, when a historic flood forced closure. Most of the buildings were razed after the flood; only the building foundations and capped waste water lagoons still exist. The WAM award will provide site investigation services to assist the RDA in defining the scope of contamination to prepare a remedial action plan. The City plans on redeveloping the site into public space, including a possible outdoor performance pavilion.



Building foundation remnants of the National Decorated Metal industrial site,  
Prairie du Chien, Wis.

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 co-ops 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, DNR brownfields section chief, at 608-267-6713.