

GREEN TEAM ASSISTANCE FOR CONTAMINATED PROPERTIES



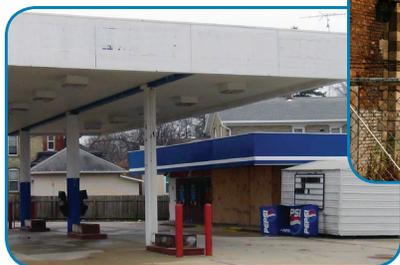
Almost every Wisconsin community has a former commercial or industrial property that no one wants to buy because they are worried about environmental contamination and the cost of cleaning it up. These properties can remain idle for years, causing blight and impeding productive reuse.

These types of properties are commonly referred to as **brownfields**.

Brownfields are abandoned, idle or underused commercial or industrial properties, where reuse is hindered by real or perceived contamination.

Brownfields vary in size, location, age and past use. They can be anything from a former 500-acre automobile assembly plant to an abandoned gas station. And they may present public health threats, along with economic, environmental and social challenges to the communities where they are located.

Local government involvement is often needed to revitalize brownfields.



DNR'S GREEN TEAM CAN HELP

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) can help local government officials navigate the challenges brownfields present and make progress towards redevelopment. If one or more past uses of a property involved petroleum or other hazardous substances, then environmental contamination is possible and should be assessed.

Potentially contaminated land raises questions about liability, funding assistance, the investigation and cleanup processes, and other issues. An effective way to learn about brownfield properties in your community — and what can be done to improve them — is to schedule a Green Team meeting with the DNR.

GREEN TEAM MEETINGS — A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

Green Team meetings are an effective and efficient way for local governments to evaluate options, plan for and work through a brownfield project. The DNR can be a valuable partner in this effort and is eager to provide the assistance you need.

A DNR Green Team meeting brings key parties together to discuss issues, answer questions and help everyone better understand the property and potential reuse scenarios. DNR staff are available to answer questions about liability protections, the cleanup process and financial assistance opportunities, including state and federal funding sources that may be available.

TYPICAL GREEN TEAM TOPICS

- Funding options
- Liability exemptions
- Property acquisition and redevelopment planning
- Site investigation and cleanup processes

SCHEDULE A GREEN TEAM MEETING

Go to dnr.wi.gov and search “brownfield contacts” for the Green Team specialist in your region.

Additional Brownfield Resources

- *Brownfields Redevelopment in Wisconsin: Essential steps and resources for successful redevelopment of brownfields* (RR-933)*
- *Financial Resource Guide for Cleanup and Redevelopment* (RR-539)*
- *Brownfields Funding Matrix* (RR-932)*
- *Local Government Environmental Liability Exemption* (RR-055)*
- dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/Financial.html
- dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/GreenTeam.html

*RR publication numbers begin with “RR-” and can be found by going to dnr.wi.gov and searching for that number.

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dnr.wi.gov
search “green team”

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