

EPA Region 4 Brownfields News Update August 2021

Dear Brownfields Community:

We have a number of updates and opportunities for you.

1. Funding Availability for FY 2022 Brownfields Job Training (JT) Grants

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver [Brownfields Job Training \(JT\)](#) programs that recruit, train, and place local, unemployed and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment across a spectrum of brownfield-related activities.

The application submission deadline is October 5th, 2021.

Apply for funding (Guidelines)

Frequently Asked Questions

Outreach Webinar

On **Tuesday, August 10, 2021 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM EDT**, EPA will host an outreach webinar for prospective applicants. A recording of the live webinar will be made available on the [FY22 Brownfields Job Training Grant Solicitation Page](#).

Webinar Access Information:

On August 10, 2021 shortly before 2:00 PM EDT, please [click here to join the live event](#). The online room will open at approximately 1:55 PM EDT.

If that above link does not work, please copy and paste this URL into your web browser:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZTZmYWUxZDgtMGUyOS00YWZILWI3NTMtMTQyNDFjOGNiYWUw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2288b378b3-6748-4867-acf9-76aacbeca6a7%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%223e09bb42-d048-42b8-abf5-894596a27d2f%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a

2. Registration is now open for the 2021 EPA RE-Development Academy (3-part webinar series)!

Join us on Fridays from 1-3pm ET on **Sept 10, Oct 15** and **Nov 19** to learn how to reposition brownfields and other contaminated properties for reuse. Learn how to reposition sites, manage risk, and overcome challenges to attracting investment to brownfield sites. Hear about successful brownfield redevelopment in economically distressed areas from the experts.

1. Removing the Barriers: Repositioning Brownfields Sites for Success September 10, 2021 | 1:00pm -3:00pm ET | Register here [CLU-IN | Training & Events > Removing the Barriers: Repositioning Brownfields Sites for Success](#)
2. Risky Business: Overcoming Challenges to Attracting Investment at Brownfields Sites October 15, 2021 | 1:00pm-3:00pm ET | Register here [CLU-IN | Training & Events > Risky Business: Overcoming Challenges to Attracting Investment at Brownfield Sites](#)
3. Show Me How: Brownfields Redevelopment in Economically Distressed Areas November 19, 2021 | 1:00pm-3:00pm ET | Register here [CLU-IN | Training & Events > Show Me How: Brownfields Redevelopment in Economically Distressed Areas](#)

3. Community Development Done Right: Putting Environmental Justice and Equity into Action

On Thursday, August 19 at 1:00pm EST, GroundworkUSA is hosting a virtual workshop: **Community Development Done Right: Putting Environmental Justice and Equity into Action**. This interactive workshop will identify strategies to meaningfully implement environmental justice and equity principles in brownfields projects and explain how to determine achievement of equitable development goals. Participants will hear about successful brownfield redevelopment projects that utilized equity as a foundation for community development, as well as apply those concepts to their communities' ongoing or proposed projects in breakout sessions. [Click here](#) to register.

4. U.S. Economic Development Agency (EDA) Plans Webinars for American Rescue Plan Funding Opportunities

Webinars are planned for 1. Build Back Better 2. Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation 3. Coal Communities 4. Research & Networks 5. Economic Adjustments 6. Indigenous Communities 7. Good Jobs Challenge. For more information and registration: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USEDA/bulletins/2ea9c27>

5. The first in a new series from the Smart Growth Network and U.S. EPA

Webinar #1: Building Upon Large-Scale Brownfield Investments to Benefit Communities (Chicago, West Pullman neighborhood)

On August 18th, 2020 at 1:00 pm CST, will explore the roles of local leadership and community engagement in building upon an initial 1996 \$20 Million investment in Brownfields to remove blight, create jobs, and transform the neighborhood to benefit residents with much-needed community amenities.

David Lloyd, Director, USEPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

Kathy Brown: KBrown and Associates, Formerly with City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development

Abraham Lacy, Executive Director, Far South Community Development Corporation

Edward Lewis, Formerly with City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development

Webinar #2 The Role of Church and Community Organizations in Leading Change (Chicago, Woodlawn neighborhood), 9/8 1:00 pm CST

Eugene E. Jones, Jr. CEO, Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta

Kathy Brown: K Brown and Associates (formerly City of Chicago Department of Planning)

Linda Morgan, USEPA Region 5, Brownfields/Job Training

Bill Eager, Senior Vice President. Real Estate Development, Midwest Region;

Felicia Dawson, Vice President, Community Partnerships

Find out more and register for this free webinar via the link

http://smartgrowth.org/learning-from-and-leaning-on-local-leaders-to-revitalize-african-american-neighborhoods/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

6. Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities – Local Foods / Local Places Technical Assistance Completed in Fort Pierce, FL

In 2018, EPA selected Fort Pierce to participate in the Local Foods, Local Places program. This technical assistance program engages local partners to develop community action plans that support neighborhood revitalization

through investments in local food systems. EPA provides a consultant team to guide the process, which included a site tour, a community workshop and development of an action plan.

With the information from the community during the visioning workshop, the team developed a Community Action Plan with five goals and supporting actions and stakeholders for each goal. Other workshop outcomes include:

- A mapping program developed with the University of Florida.
- Funding for a food nutrition position from the Health Department.
- Community Champions for the Garden, Blue Tubes grant from Wells Fargo.
- A new co-chair for the Food Council.

Building on this foundation, EPA selected United Against Poverty and a dynamic group of local community-based and local government partners in 2020 to receive equitable development technical assistance through EPA's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program. The program helps facilitate discussions about growth and building capacities for neighborhood revitalization. With support from EPA, Fort Pierce community leaders will host a series of workshops in spring 2021 to identify strategies to advance living-wage jobs, affordable housing and community health in the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

For more information on EPA's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program, please visit www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks-sustainable-communities. Solicitations for these technical assistance program will be announced in October 2021.

7. State Brownfields Associations Updates

Upcoming State Brownfields Associations Events: Note that State Association events are open to anyone from anywhere. These are excellent learning opportunities all year long!

- Alabama Brownfields Association: <https://www.albfa.org/>
- Florida Brownfields Association: <https://www.floridabrownfields.com/>

AL & FL are co-sponsoring a fall in-person conference: <https://www.floridabrownfields.com/2021FLALconference>



- Georgia Brownfields Association: <http://georgiabrownfield.org/>



8. Annual Florida Brownfields Association Virtual EJ Workshop

“EJ On The Ground and into the Future”

When

Monday, August 9, 2021 at 9:30 AM EDT
-to-
Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 2:30 PM EDT

Where

Virtual Event via Zoom

You're invited to the Florida Brownfields Association Virtual Environmental Justice Workshop. We have chosen to go virtual due to the rising numbers of COVID cases.

This two-day workshop will focus on how one Florida community is addressing environmental issues on the ground and how to prepare future leaders in the field of environmental justice.

"Who should attend?" Community members, environmental professionals, students, local, state, federal government leaders, and private sector entities with resources to aid communities.

AGENDA CAN BE ACCESSED HERE!

Register Now!

This event is no charge but registration is required. The Zoom link will be sent to registered attendees only!

9. Want more?

OBLR (Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization) has a national listserv again! Here's the link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/SVbfoYx/BrownfieldsListserv> All of the people who were signed up before the listserv service lapsed were re-entered into the distribution so there's no need to sign up again if they were receiving the emails before.

10. EPA Region 4 Application Tips sheets

Staff are busy developing tips sheets for applicants for the 2022 grant cycle. Current Tips Sheets include RLF and Assessment applications for 2021. These will be updated for the 2022 grant cycle *when the guidelines are released* – likely in late September. In addition, there will be a tips sheet for non-profits considering applying for assessment grants. <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/region4>

Cindy

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