

SABR News

A Publication for the Brownfield Interested Party List

November 2014

U.S. EPA Opens the FY15 Brownfield Grant Round

In mid-October, U.S. EPA announced that it would be accepting proposals for FY15 brownfields grants and published the grant guidelines on the brownfields website (epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm). U.S. EPA will only accept grant proposals for assessment and cleanup grants for this grant round.



Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) grants will not be awarded to new applicants in FY15. High-performing BCRLF grantees can apply for supplemental funding later in the fiscal year. Eligible assessment grant applicants include state, local and tribal governments. Non-profit organizations, non-profit educational institutions and government entities are also eligible for cleanup grants.

Up to \$200,000 in funding is available for assessment grants for either one specific site or several potential sites within the government's jurisdictional area. Assessment funding grants up to \$600,000 are also available for coalitions, which are three or more state, local or tribal governments that agree to work together to implement the assessment grant activities. Site-specific cleanup grants will be funded up to \$200,000.

One of the requirements for all grant applicants is to obtain a letter of support from a state or tribal environmental authority. Ohio EPA has put together a set of instructions for obtaining this letter of support, which can be found in the Announcements and Highlights section of the SABR webpage at epa.ohio.gov/derr/. To process your support letter in a timely manner prior to the grant deadline of Dec. 19, 2014, all support request letters should be emailed to Megan Oravec (Megan.Oravec@epa.ohio.gov) no later than Dec. 5, 2014.

We wish all Ohio brownfield grant applicants luck as they prepare their proposals for the FY15 grant round!

In This Issue:

- » U.S. EPA Opens FY15 Brownfield Grant Round
- » Brownfield Funding Workshops
- » Recent CP Trainings
- » SABR Staff Changes
- » Chardon Rubber Company Cleanup and Redevelopment
- » Courses Offered for PDHUs



We're on the Web!
epa.ohio.gov/derr/SABR/sabr.aspx

Brownfield Funding Workshops

Ohio EPA offers free workshops to inform small and rural communities of the state and federal resources including grants, loans and other assistance available to assess and redevelop brownfield or blighted properties.

The latest workshop was held on Oct. 2 in Canton, Ohio and was one of largest ever with more than 90 participants. The speakers presented strategies for identifying and prioritizing brownfield properties; grants, loans and services available to help communities with brownfield redevelopment; and computer programs for brownfield management and grant writing.

Speakers from Ohio EPA, Ohio Development Services Agency, JobsOhio, U.S. EPA, Great Lakes RCAP, City of Cuyahoga Falls, and the Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program (which provides assistance to small communities through a U.S. EPA grant) addressed the following topics:

- » U.S. EPA Brownfield Grants and Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program
- » Great Lakes Rural Community Assistance Program
- » Brownfield Redevelopment Projects in Cuyahoga Falls
- » Ohio Development Services Agency's (ODSA) Brownfield Program
- » JobsOhio Revitalization Program
- » BUSTR Revolving Loan Fund
- » Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program (VAP), Small and Rural Community Brownfield Assistance and Targeted Brownfield Assessments

For more information, or to set up a workshop in your community, please visit our website (epa.ohio.gov/derr/SABR/BrownfieldRedevelopmentWorkshop.aspx) or contact Megan Oravec at (614) 728-1749 or megan.oravec@epa.ohio.gov.

Recent CP Trainings – It's Been a Busy Summer and Fall



The latest CP trainings included several initial trainings, the autumn 2014 coffee and ground water sampling training. The CP initial training in July, August and September covered the revised VAP rules that became effective on Aug. 1, 2014, and featured updated videos and live presentations by Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization (DERR) staff.

The ground water sampling training, conducted by members of Ohio EPA's Site Investigation Field Unit (SIFU) several times during October, reviewed Ohio EPA's "Technical Guidance Manual for Hydrogeologic Investigations and Ground Water Monitoring" (TGM). Participants also received hands-on field training experience with commonly used ground water sampling methods including bladder pumps, electrical submersible pumps, peristaltic pumps, inertial lift pumps (used with direct-push ground water samplers) and bailers.

continued on page 3...

The autumn CP coffee provided DERR program updates and information about important aspects of the new VAP rules. Topics covered included: a walk-through of the NFA template; environmental covenants; diligent efforts/post CNS modifications under the VAP; variance and case-by-case ground water rules; post-remedy certification guidance; details about the fraction organic carbon (FOC) technical guidance document; and new Agency file review procedures. The CP coffee presentations are available on our website and CPs can earn 3.5 PDHUs for viewing the recording: epa.ohio.gov/portals/30/sabr/docs/training/cpcoffee/Fall%202014%20Agenda.pdf.

Winter is also shaping up to be another active CP training season. On Dec. 2, 2014 we host the Advanced Tools for In-Situ Remediation Workshop, which is worth 8 PDHUs. This day-long, interactive workshop includes key experts from academia, government and industry. Recent developments in the field have made in-situ green remediation more feasible. These approaches depend on a new set of advanced tools that provide definitive data in designing and monitoring progress at ground water contamination sites. The objective of Advanced Tools is to help participants develop an in-depth understanding of the proper selection and implementation of state-of-the-art tools and strategies for the assessment and documentation of in-situ degradation processes. The full agenda and registration can be found at eventbrite.com/e/advanced-tools-for-in-situ-remediation-workshop-tickets-14109974313.

We will also have laboratory training for VAP Certified Professionals on Jan. 29, 2015. This training will cover topics such as certified laboratory sampling and analysis, communication with certified laboratories prior to a project and field sampling. A winter CP coffee will likely also be offered in late February or March of 2015. Keep your eye on the DERR “Outreach and Training” webpage at epa.ohio.gov/derr/contact/training.aspx for announcements about upcoming training and registration information.

Changes in the Site Assistance and Brownfield Revitalization Section (SABR)

There have been several changes in staff positions and responsibilities in the Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization (DERR). Tiffani Kavalec has transferred to the Division of Surface Water to serve as assistant chief and Martin Smith and Mark Rickrich have been promoted to the VAP/Federal Facilities manager and the Remedial Response/Site Assessment manager, respectively. As a result of these and other divisional changes, the following reorganizations have occurred in SABR:

- » Vlad Cica has been promoted to Brownfields Grant and TBA coordinator, the position previously held by Martin Smith. Vlad still can be contacted for any questions about Clean Ohio grant sites where cleanup is still ongoing or cleanup documentation, for instance NFA letters, is still being reviewed by DERR.
- » Megan Oravec has taken on extra duties, assisting Vlad with SABR’s Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) program. Megan is now the main point of contact for initial questions about TBAs and will be receiving all TBA applications for initial processing and eligibility determination.
- » Dan Tjoelker has transferred from SABR to the VAP/Federal Facilities Section to serve as the VAP Audit Coordinator.

The division plans to refill the position vacated by Vlad Cica. The duties of that position will include assistance with TBAs, direct brownfield incentive outreach to communities and assistance to Megan on training, workshop and conference activities.

Clean Ohio Fund funding has moved to JobsOhio and they have created the JobsOhio Revitalization Fund. The requirements for obtaining assessment and cleanup grants and low-interest loans have changed and can be accessed from JobsOhio webpage at jobs-ohio.com/funding/.

Chardon Rubber Company – What was old is new again at this revitalized rubber manufacturing plant

Chardon Rubber Company, located at 373 Washington Street, was one of the largest manufacturers in the area from 1930 until 2009, when the company filed for bankruptcy. The closing of the plant resulted in the loss of many jobs, and a significant drop in property value. The city of Chardon sought a Clean Ohio Fund grant in order to revitalize the underutilized and unique industrial property, provide a place for an existing tenant's business to expand and create additional jobs.

In 2010, the city received a \$1.44 million Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund grant to complete remediation and demolition activities at the property. The county and the property owner provided a \$612,000 match for site assessment, demolition, cleanup and infrastructure. Ohio EPA provided technical assistance for the property cleanup, which was funded through a state brownfield grant with U.S. EPA.

The grant was used to remediate impacted ground water, remove asbestos and waste, and demolish a portion of an existing building. A total of 4,200 square feet of PCB-impacted concrete and 190 tons of TPH-impacted soil was removed and disposed off-site. The site is limited to commercial and industrial use and a ground water use restriction is in place. Ohio EPA issued a Covenant not to Sue (CNS) for the property on June 3, 2013.

Roughly 100,000 square feet of the Chardon Rubber plant was demolished and 1.5 acres of the western portion of the property and former rail spurs is being converted to green space and a bike path. A new, more modern facade was added to the front of the remaining structure facing Washington Street. The loading/shipping docks were relocated from Washington Street to the rear of the building to improve traffic flow.

Chardon Custom Polymers re-established manufacturing in the facility in 2010 with 14 employees. The company continues refurbishing the building for rubber compound processing with a \$2 million investment in building updates. The remainder of the property will be marketed for office, warehouse, commercial or retail development. The redevelopment will result in the creation of 52 jobs and the retention of 14 positions.



Chardon Custom Polymers is now expanding onto the revitalized site.



Chardon Rubber in the early days, above, and before cleanup and redevelopment, below.



Courses offered for PDHUs

Material covered, information provided and any opinions expressed in any courses do not supercede Voluntary Action Program statutory language, rule requirements or technical reviews provided by Ohio EPA staff.

Evaluating Completion of Ground Water Restoration Remedial Actions

Nov 12, 2014 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. (2 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/tio/register/new.cfm?date=801>

Project Risk Management for Site Remediation

Nov 13, 2014 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2.25 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/register/default.cfm?title=Project%20Risk%20Management%20for%20Site%20Remediation>

Integrated DNAPL Site Strategy

Dec 2, 2014 2 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. (2.25 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/register/default.cfm?title=Integrated%20DNAPL%20Site%20Strategy>

Advanced Tools for In-Situ Remediation - Stable Isotope Analysis (Agency-offered PDHUs)

Dec 4, 2014 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (8 PDHUs)

Registration to open soon

Mining Waste Treatment Technology Selection

Dec 4, 2014 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2.25 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/register/new.cfm?date=647>

Remedy Selection for Contaminated Sediments

Dec 11, 2014 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2.25 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/register/new.cfm?date=649>

Ground Water Statistics for Environmental Project Managers

Dec 16, 2014 2 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. (2.25 PDHUs)

<http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/register/new.cfm?date=650>

Laboratory Training (Agency-offered PDHUs)

January 29, 2015 (PDHUs TBA)

SABR News

Ohio EPA
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

John R. Kasich, Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

Editorial Assistance:
Cathryn Allen

Writers:
Megan Oravec, Ildi Pallos,
Amy Yersavich

Graphics & Layout:
Cathryn Allen

Visit us at epa.ohio.gov

Ohio EPA is an Equal
Opportunity Employer

