

# Brownfields Program Overview

## New England

The Mayo Mill, pictured on the right, which sits along the Piscataquis River in downtown Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, began as a woolen mill in 1882 and eventually was abandoned and contaminated. Today it holds a vibrant complex of offices, businesses and residences. This project offers a prime example of how the EPA Brownfields program provides a range of grants that make this transformation possible. The Mayo Mill's main building was constructed in 1908 of concrete, an unusual construction material for the time. In the 1950s, Moosehead Manufacturing Co., a furniture manufacturer, bought the factory and ran it until June 2007, when the business closed, and became property of the town through tax foreclosure. Pine Crest Development Corporation, a non-profit economic development corporation established by the town, bought it and received EPA funds to clean the property. In 2014 Mayo Mill Holding's LLC purchased the property with the intent of developing the concrete building. It applied for more cleanup funding from three sources that had received EPA revolving loans. Mayo Mill was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, allowing the developer to use Historic Tax Credits. EPA provided almost \$1.9 million for cleaning the site, which was combined with another \$12 million from private, non-profit, state and federal agencies to redevelop. Apartments, businesses, a commercial data center and a boutique inn now share the more than 150,000 square feet of space.



*Mayo Mill Redevelopment*

*Credits: Piscataquis County Economic Development Council*

- **Assessment grants** pay for eligible governmental or non-profit recipients to inventory, characterize, and assess the contamination of brownfield properties. This funding can also be used to for neighborhood planning, community outreach, and cleanup planning related to brownfields. Grants are available for up to \$300,000 to address sites contaminated with hazardous substances or petroleum. Assessment coalition grants are available for up to \$600,000 when three or more entities combine efforts under a single project.
- **Cleanup grants** provide up to \$500,000 in funding for properties owned by either governmental or non-profit applicants. Revolving loan fund grants allow states, cities, groups of cities and towns, or non-profits to make low interest loans or sub-grants of cleanup funding to address contaminated properties in their jurisdictions. These grants are funded at up to \$1 million, with the possibility of receiving more funding based on performance.

***The Brownfields Program provides direct funding and assistance to New England communities through various grant and technical assistance programs. These grants include funding for assessment, cleanup, and related activities throughout Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.***

# EPA's Brownfields program continues to form new partnerships and explore creative new ways to help revitalize communities throughout New England.

## For more information:

Visit the EPA Brownfields website at [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields) or contact Jim Byrne at 617-918-1389 or [byrne.james@epa.gov](mailto:byrne.james@epa.gov).

- **Multipurpose grants** provide up to \$800,000 for a governmental or non-profit recipient to pay for a combination of assessment and cleanup work in a specific area.
- **Job training grants** fund governmental or non-profit entities to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of communities impacted by brownfields. These grants of up to \$200,000 help give residents the skills needed to get good jobs in environmental fields.
- The **Targeted Brownfields Assessment** program is a form of technical assistance in which an EPA contractor assesses brownfield properties on behalf of municipalities or non-profits. These services are designed to spur the redevelopment of sites in communities that do not have access to funding for assessments.

EPA also provides up to \$50 million nationwide in grants to states and tribes for response programs involved in the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields. States and tribes can also use this funding for environmental assessments, cleanup grants, environmental insurance, and to update and revise regulations.

The benefits of revitalizing brownfields go beyond the sites and into the community. The developments improve public health and environmental quality, while creating housing, businesses, public facilities, parks and new jobs. The revitalized sites raise awareness of sustainable redevelopment and increase property values. EPA's Brownfields program continues to form new partnerships and explore creative new ways to help revitalize communities throughout New England.

### EPA New England Brownfields Team

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