

COLORADO BROWNFIELDS RESOURCES

WHAT IS A BROWNFIELD?

A brownfield is a property where expansion, redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant.

Brownfields are present in nearly every community, from dry cleaners and gas stations to vacant retail properties and former industrial sites. Nationally, the [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980](#) (CERCLA, also known as Superfund) and the [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act](#) (RCRA) were established to address the threat of hazardous wastes sites and to prevent future contamination from occurring. Although some brownfield sites are governed by CERCLA or RCRA, most are regulated on a state level. In Colorado, most brownfield sites fall under the oversight of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, or the Department of Oil and Public Safety.



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (CDPHE)



SITE ASSESSMENTS

CDPHE provides assistance in performing site assessments to determine the extent and nature of site contamination. Public and non-profit groups are eligible, with preference given to applicants who have established a vision for reuse.

VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM (VCUP)

The VCUP program was established to facilitate cleanup by public and private property owners and to provide assurances against regulatory enforcement. The program allows property owners to obtain both state and federal regulatory approval in one step, which addresses environmental liability concerns and makes brownfield projects more eligible for financing.

BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND (BRLF)

Under the BRLF, CDPHE partners with private landowners or qualifying local governments and non-profits to provide financing with reduced interest rates, flexible loan terms, and more flexibility in acceptable forms of collateral to encourage cleanup and reuse of contaminated sites. Only projects with an approved Voluntary Cleanup Plan are eligible.

TAX CREDITS

Brownfield Tax Credits are available for VCUP sites where remediation has been performed in conjunction with new capital improvement or redevelopment projects. The maximum tax credit ranges between \$525,000 and \$675,000 depending on remediation costs and project location. Tax credit availability varies; reach out to the contact below for more information.

BROWNFIELD CLEANUP GRANTS

CDPHE has grant funding available for sites where there is no responsible party to perform remediation and the contamination presents a threat to human health or the environment. Only non-profits, non-federal government entities, watershed groups and other community organizations are eligible.

RURAL HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT ASBESTOS & LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT PILOT PROGRAM

This pilot program provides grant funding for asbestos and lead paint abatement to local governments that meet the definition of "rural" under Colorado statute. This program is authorized through June 30, 2027. Future funding will depend on appropriations by the state legislature.

Site Assessments

Mark Rudolph
303-692-3311
mark.rudolph@state.co.us

Revolving Loan Fund

Kathleen Knox
303-692-3544
kathleen.knox@state.co.us

Cleanup Grants

Kyle Sandor
303-692-6394
kyle.sandor@state.co.us

Tax Credits

Fonda Apostolopoulos
303-692-3411
fonda.apostolopoulos@state.co.us

COLORADO DIVISION OF OIL & PUBLIC SAFETY

PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK FUND

The Petroleum Storage Tank Fund provides reimbursement for the costs associated with assessment and cleanup of sites contaminated with petroleum. Tank owners and operators, property owners, and lenders may be eligible, but funding may be reduced or unavailable if tanks were not operated in compliance with applicable regulations. Maximum reimbursement is \$2 million per release occurrence and \$3 million per year for a single applicant. Tank owners and operators are responsible for the first \$10,000 of remediation costs.



COLORADO
Department of
Labor and Employment

Division of Oil and Public Safety

PETROLEUM CLEANUP AND REDEVELOPMENT FUND

The Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund "Redevelopment Fund" was created to support the investigation and cleanup of abandoned gas stations and other petroleum storage tank sites that are not eligible for reimbursement through the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund. To be eligible, the applicant must provide proof of property ownership, evidence of current or former petroleum storage tanks, and a plan for reuse/redevelopment. Up to \$60,000 is available for tank removal, up to \$20,000 for a Level I Site Assessment (with 10% match by Applicant), up to \$30,000 for a Level II Site Characterization (with 10% match by Applicant), and up to \$500,000 for Level III (Cleanup) work, with 50% match by Applicant.

CONTACTS

Petroleum Storage Tank Fund and Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund

Mary KV White

720-584-5101

marykv.white@state.co.us

Hannah Williams

720-376-0239

hannah.williams@state.co.us

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

COLORADO BROWNFIELDS PARTNERSHIP

Colorado Brownfields Partnership is a state-wide collaboration between Community Builders, Development Research Partners, and CDPHE. Colorado Brownfields Partnership provides free planning assistance, capacity building, educational resources, and financial help to communities with brownfield sites, with the goal of fulfilling economic potential.

EPA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO BROWNFIELDS (TAB)

The EPA TAB program provides free technical assistance to communities on brownfields issues, with the goal of increasing the community's understanding and involvement in brownfield cleanup and revitalization, and helping put brownfield properties back to productive use. Kansas State University (KSU) is the TAB provider to Colorado, as well as all of EPA Regions 5, 6, 7, and 8. KSU provides planning and redevelopment assistance, financial analysis, technical document review, community outreach assistance, online tools, and more.

CONTACTS

KSU TAB

Kate Lucas, AICP

817-565-2885

katelucas@ksu.edu

Colorado Brownfields Partnership

Brooks Cowles

970-344-8877

info@CObrownfieldspartnership.org

brooks@CObrownfieldspartnership.org

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY



TAB

Technical Assistance
to Brownfields



COLORADO
BROWNFIELDS
PARTNERSHIP

OTHER PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONES

ENTERPRISE ZONES

NEW MARKET TAX CREDITS

CHARGE AHEAD COLORADO

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDITS

RENEWABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE GRANTS

CITY AND/OR COUNTY FUNDING