

The Wilder-Rotary Park in Peterborough, now a popular fishing spot, is situated on land that was once part of the Wilder Thermometer Factory.

Brownfields Program Impacts

As of November 2014, SWRPC has spent \$1,185,098 in Brownfields Assessment grant money to assess 24 sites, leading to the following outcomes:

- Creation of 5 community facilities:
- Closure and removal of 13 underground storage tanks totaling 116,700 gallon capacity of petroleum product;
- Excavation of more than 1,130 tons of contaminated soil at 8 sites;
- Creation of 3 green space sites totaling 33 acres;
- Creation of over 155 jobs;
- Creation of 76 housing units with 51 more housing units proposed;
- Provision of federal liability protections for prospective purchasers.

Who We Are

About Us

Southwest Region Planning Commission is one of nine regional planning commissions in New Hampshire established under RSA 36. Our region covers a 34-town area in Cheshire, western Hillsborough, and Sullivan Counties.

Our Partners





Contact Us

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SWRPC BROWNFIELDS
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
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SWRPC BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



A program of the Southwest Region Planning Commission



SWRPC Brownfields Assessment Program

Since 2003, the Southwest Region Planning Commission (SWRPC) has managed a Brownfields Assessment Program designed to help municipalities in southwestern New Hampshire turn brownfields into community assets.

Funded by EPA Brownfield Assessment grants, it does this by assessing real or perceived contamination of vacant or underutilized properties and working with property owners and partners towards the remediation and redevelopment of those properties.

The program is implemented by SWRPC staff with the help of a Brownfields Advisory Committee and a pool of contracted environmental consultants.



Brownfields Program Goals:

- Bring Properties back to their Best Use;
- Protect Environmental Quality;
- Eliminate Public Health Threats:
- Create & Retain Local Jobs;
- * Restore & Enhance Local Tax Revenue:
- Protect Community Character; and
- Support Historic Preservation.

"This program was essential to reopening The Park Theatre – a facility that will create 29 jobs and provide year-round art and entertainment to the region."

- Caroline Hollister, The Park Theatre

The Brownfields Program Process

Step 1: Site Nomination and Eligibility Determination.

The first step in beginning the Brownfields Program is to fill out the site nomination form. Once a site is nominated, the Brownfields Advisory Committee will review the site to determine if it is eligible.

Step 2: Assessment.

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), which includes a visual assessment, interviews and research into site history, is used to determine the likelihood that some form of environmental contamination is present at the site.



This 12,000 gallon underground storage tank was removed from the Four Corners store in Richmond. NH.

If potential contamination is identified, the next step in assessment is typically a Phase II ESA, which results in a more comprehensive report of what contaminants are present on the property and the level of contamination.

Step 3: Remedial Action Planning.

The final stage in the SWRPC Brownfields Assessment Program, remedial action planning, can include a Phase III ESA with continued site investigation and/or the creation of a Remedial Action Plan (RAP).

Step 4: Clean-Up and Reuse.

While the SWRPC Brownfields Program cannot provide funds for site clean-up or redevelopment, we can use program funds to market properties in the program and for redevelopment planning activities, such as creating a Remedial Implementation Plan (RIP). We can also refer you to cleanup grants and loan opportunities.