In 2019, the River Valley Regional Commission was awarded a US EPA Brownfield Grant in the amount of $600,000. Funds can be used for Phase I and II environmental site assessments (ESAs), clean-up planning and community outreach activities.

Why cleanup and reinvest in brownfield sites?

- Increases the local tax base
- Helps spur redevelopment
- Uses existing infrastructure
- Facilitates job growth
- Improves and protects the environment

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Why is this important for businesses and developers?

- Environmental assessments can remove the environmental stigma surrounding a property.
- If contamination is found, rehabilitation costs can be realized and managed.
- Liability protections via federal (CERCLA & RCRA) and state laws can protect non-responsible parties.
- Redevelopment of contaminated sites can unlock private investment and leverage funds for greater redevelopment.

What are Brownfields?

A brownfield site is a property where actual or perceived environmental contamination complicates its expansion or redevelopment. Sites may be contaminated with hazardous substances, petroleum, pesticides, metals and asbestos.

Brownfields Program

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Brownfields Program to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders to promote economic redevelopment for sustainable reuse.

Identifying Sites

Do you know of a property you believe to be contaminated?

Is your property vacant because of real or perceived contamination?

Are you having trouble selling your property because of real or perceived contamination?

If you answered **YES** then the property may be eligible for the RVRC Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant Program.

What does the funding cover?

**PHASE I & II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS**

A Phase I is a non-intrusive evaluation of environmental conditions at a site to determine if there is a recognized environmental condition (REC) which warrants further investigation in the form of a Phase II ESA.