

Windham Region Brownfields Reuse Initiative



Brownfields are land and buildings whose expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

The Windham Region Brownfields Reuse Initiative (WRBRI) was established in 2000 with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The overall goal of our program is to restore brownfields sites to productive uses that include business and industrial uses, housing, community facilities and public green spaces.

How Can the WRBRI Help? Property owners or prospective purchasers can take advantage of this grant and loan funding to assess or cleanup contaminated properties. The WRBRI hires consultants to complete environmental site assessments and, if needed, develop plans to remediate contaminated sites. The WRBRI can also help with funding to carry out remediation plans. We work with both publicly-owned and privately-owned sites.

How Do I Participate? *Participation is strictly voluntary.* Once a property owner decides to pursue a brownfields investigation and/or remediation, a Site Nomination form must be submitted for Assessment projects and a Site Eligibility Form is submitted for Cleanup projects. Proposed projects are reviewed and approved by the WRBRI Steering Committee. The forms and additional program information are available at <http://www.windhamregional.org/brownfields>



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A Record of Success

The WRBRI program has a record of success in helping to redevelop brownfields sites. In Brattleboro, a former automobile repair shop was developed into affordable housing for seniors and a former gas station was transformed into a Farmer's Market. In Wilmington a former manufacturing site is now the home of the MOOver Transportation Center. A new park was recently developed on an old industrial site in the Village of Saxtons River. Your community project could be next.

What Are the Benefits of Working With WRBRI?

Assistance with Site Assessments & Cleanup

The WRBRI program will pay for the entire cost of a Phase I Assessment and either a portion or the entire cost of a Phase II Assessment, depending on complexity and available funds. The WRBRI program also has a grant/revolving loan program available for Cleanup funding. The program will also assist the owner in identifying additional funding sources, including Vermont's Brownfields Revitalization Fund, EPA Cleanup Grants, and Community Development Block Grants. The availability of this funding can represent a substantial savings to the owner and/or prospective purchaser.

Information Regarding Liability

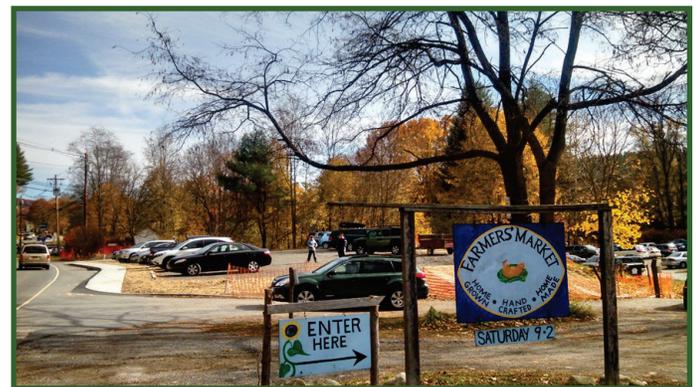
Concerns about liability may discourage those who see redevelopment potential in a property. Existing state and federal regulations require responsible parties (including owners of contaminated properties) to clean the site. WRBRI services include technical assistance to educate owners and other parties about liability issues and cleanup options.



Red Clover Commons, Brattleboro



MOOver Transportation Center, Wilmington



Farmers Market, Brattleboro

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