# **BROWNFIELD** REDEVELOPMENT



## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY RENEWAL & GROWTH**

## **BROWNFIELDS ARE OPPORTUNITIES!**

The Arkansas Brownfield Program can help your community redevelop underutilized or vacant sites where contamination or prohibitive cleanup costs may be a barrier.

A brownfield site is a property where commercial, industrial, agricultural, or residential use may have contaminated the site with a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. A proposed brownfield site is a defined area; it does NOT need to be the entire property or lease.

#### **COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

When brownfield properties sit idle, communities suffer environmental worries and reduced property values. Cleaning up, reusing, and reinvesting in brownfield properties improves public health, the environment, and the economy by:

- Returning blighted and contaminated properties to productive use
- Ensuring these properties are safe for the public and the environment
- Stimulating economic development with new business opportunities and tax base increase
- Increasing property values in surrounding areas
- Minimizing or eliminating the need for environmental enforcement or state funded cleanup

### **GRANT MONEY**

Municipalities, local governments, community planning organizations, and eligible nonprofits may qualify for additional funding opportunities through the Arkansas Brownfield Program. For those who qualify, Brownfield grant money is available to have approved contractors to perform the environmental assessments at no charge.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

- Eligible Applicants include individuals, companies, or lenders who do not hold or have held title to the property and are not responsible for contamination at the site.
- Eligible Properties include abandoned or underutilized industrial, commercial, agricultural, or residential properties for which no responsible party can reasonably be pursued for cleanup.

## **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Under the Arkansas Brownfield Program, prospective purchasers investigate contaminant releases and conduct soil and source material cleanup if needed. In return, based on the terms of the agreement, the purchaser of the property will be able to define the financial obligations early in the process and after approval from Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), will not be held liable for past contamination after the cleanup is complete. This limitation of liability transfers to subsequent purchasers of the property, so long as they are not responsible for any past contamination.

### HOW TO APPLY

The Arkansas Brownfield Program process involves:

- 1. Application submittal to the DEQ. Contact us to obtain the application form or additional documents.
- 2. Comprehensive Site Assessment performed by the participant
- 3. Implementing Agreement entered into by the participant and DEQ
- 4. Property Development Plan (PDP) submitted by the participant
- 5. Decision on PDP issued by DEQ and 30 days provided for public comment
- 6. Remediation performed on property, if necessary
- 7. Certificate of Completion issued to the participant

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT US AT:

ARKANSAS BROWNFIELD PROGRAM t: 501.682.0872

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