

What is a Brownfield?

The EPA defines a Brownfield as “*real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.*”

The Assessment Process

- **Phase I Environmental Site Assessments** consist of a site visit and review of municipal, historical and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) files. The background, past uses and history of reported releases of hazardous materials are reviewed. The information is used to assess what type of contamination may be present at the site, and where it is likely to be located.
- **Phase II Environmental Site Assessments** consist of sampling and analysis of soil, groundwater, and other media, based on the results of the Phase I Assessment. Recommendations on cleanup options and remedial cost estimates are prepared.
- **Phase III Remedial Action Planning** consists of the preparation of a cleanup plan for the site. Multiple cleanup options, their costs and effectiveness are evaluated. The remediation plan is based on the end use of the site.

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Public Involvement

MetroCOG values the public's input and feedback related to the brownfields decision-making process. The public can provide important information about the site, express the community's environmental and health questions, and provide valuable feedback to the agencies. At various stages of the assessment process, public meetings will be held to present assessment findings and updates to the public.

Learn more about Brownfields & Land Revalidation at:
<http://www.ctbrownfields.gov/>
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

Para obtener información en español, por favor envíe un email a:
acoleman@townofstratford.com

Translation for any other language is available upon request and at no charge. Please allow for a seven day response time.

This brochure was developed by a grant through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). The opinions expressed in this brochure are those of MetroCOG and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the US EPA.



Brownfields Program

This brochure has been developed to provide the public with information on the MetroCOG Brownfields Program. After reading this brochure, you will better understand brownfield sites and the assessment process, as well as the benefits of cleanup and redevelopment.

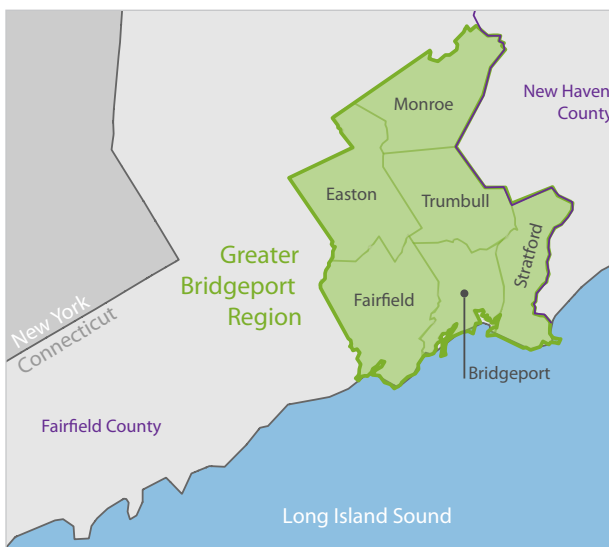
About MetroCOG

The Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments (MetroCOG) is a multi-discipline, regional planning organization with six member communities — Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull. In addition to assistance with assessing and remediating contaminated sites, MetroCOG provides member municipalities with transportation planning, conservation, economic development and natural hazard mitigation.

About our Brownfields Program

MetroCOG's Brownfields Program is intended to inventory, identify and assess sites throughout the Greater Bridgeport Region that require environmental assessment and remediation prior to re-use and redevelopment and provide coordination for remediation.

MetroCOG has been awarded multiple grants by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) to address brownfields in the Greater Bridgeport Re-



Brownfields & Public Health

Brownfield assessment, remediation and redevelopment is crucial in the protection and improvement of public and community health:

- Assessment of a brownfield site involves the identification of any materials that may be hazardous to your health or the environment. Cleanup options are evaluated to determine the most efficient and effective way to address unacceptable risks to human health and the environment.
- Remediation of a brownfield site includes the cleanup of any hazardous materials that were found, decreases the risk of human exposure, and allows the site to be reused.
- Revitalized land can be used to address the health needs of a community and improve sustainability. Redevelopment of a brownfield site can reinvigorate a community, address environmental justice issues, preserve green space, boost the local economy, and provide an opportunity for job growth.



gion. Before a site can be cleaned up, the type and extent of contamination must be researched through an environmental assessment. In 2013 and again in 2015, MetroCOG was selected for a \$400,000 Brownfields Assessment grant to inventory, characterize, and assess sites and conduct planning and outreach.

Once a site has been assessed for environmental contamination, remediation is often necessary. In 2014 MetroCOG was awarded \$900,000 through the EPA's 2014 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program to be used for loans and subgrants related to remediation.

For many sites, the funding provided by MetroCOG has assisted their respective municipalities in securing additional grants through the state and federal governments. MetroCOG has also assisted member municipalities with inventorying, locating, mapping

and collecting documentation on potentially contaminated sites.

Strategic Planning

MetroCOG's Brownfields Program complements a number of local redevelopment initiatives that encompass transportation, economic development and conservation. MetroCOG's Brownfield funds have been utilized to prepare sites for transit oriented development, remove derelict structures and evaluate future improvements. Since 2013, MetroCOG has provided over \$430,000 in EPA funds for brownfields assessment & cleanup to member municipalities. For every \$1 from MetroCOG, over \$11 in state, federal & private funds have been invested.