



Issues & Trends

Spring/Summer 2022 RR Program Updates

June 16, 2022

Today's Agenda

New &
Updated
Guidance



Infrastructure
Funding

*Staff
Updates*



RR External
Advisory
Group

RR-128

GREEN TEAM ASSISTANCE FOR CONTAMINATED PROPERTIES



Almost every Wisconsin community has a former commercial or industrial property that no one wants to buy because they are worried about environmental contamination and the cost of cleaning it up. These properties can remain idle for years, causing blight and impeding productive reuse.

These types of properties are commonly referred to as **brownfields**.

Brownfields are abandoned, idle or underused commercial or industrial properties, where reuse is hindered by real or perceived contamination.

Brownfields vary in size, location, age and past use. They can be anything from a former 500-acre automobile assembly plant to an abandoned gas station. And they may present public health threats, along with economic, environmental and social challenges to the communities where they are located.

Local government involvement is often needed to revitalize brownfields.

DNR'S GREEN TEAM CAN HELP

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) can help local government officials navigate the challenges brownfields present and make progress towards redevelopment. If one or more past uses of a property involved petroleum or other hazardous substances, then environmental contamination is possible and should be assessed.

Potentially contaminated land raises questions about liability, funding assistance, the investigation and cleanup processes, and other issues. An effective way to learn about brownfield properties in your community — and what can be done to improve them — is to schedule a Green Team meeting with the DNR.

GREEN TEAM MEETINGS — A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

Green Team meetings are an effective and efficient way for local governments to evaluate options, plan for and work through a brownfield project. The DNR can be a valuable partner in this effort and is eager to provide the assistance you need.

A DNR Green Team meeting brings key parties together to discuss issues, answer questions and help everyone better understand the property and potential reuse scenarios. DNR staff are available to answer questions about liability protections, the cleanup process and financial assistance opportunities, including state and federal funding sources that may be available.

TYPICAL GREEN TEAM TOPICS

- Funding options
- Liability exemptions
- Property acquisition and redevelopment planning
- Site investigation and cleanup processes

SCHEDULE A GREEN TEAM MEETING

Go to dnr.wi.gov and search “brownfield contacts” for the Green Team specialist in your region.

[Additional Brownfield Resources](#)

- *Brownfields Redevelopment in Wisconsin: Essential steps*



Guidance: Selecting a Qualified Environmental Consultant (FAQs)

The investigation and remediation of hazardous substance discharges and environmental pollution can be complex and costly. Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 712 establishes qualifications for environmental consultants who perform investigation and cleanup work in Wisconsin and requires specific credentials to sign off on certain activities.

How do I find a qualified environmental consultant?

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) cannot recommend specific consultants or firms; however, the DNR maintains a public list of providers who have identified themselves as consultants that conduct environmental work in Wisconsin. See DNR publication RR-024, *Environmental Services Contractors List*; go to dnr.wi.gov and search “RR-024.”

Area businesses, municipalities and professional associations that have overseen environmental investigations and cleanups may be able to provide environmental consultant recommendations.

What property information should I share with a consultant when requesting a quote for services?

Share as much information as possible about the property with consultants you consider hiring, including knowledge of known contamination or environmental pollution and potential sources of contamination. This will allow the consultant to prepare an effective

Purpose

This publication is intended to help responsible parties and others understand how to select a qualified environmental consultant to investigate and clean up soil, groundwater, sediment and other contaminated environmental media per Wisconsin Statute chapter (Wis. Stat. ch.) 292 and Wisconsin Administrative (Wis. Admin.) Code chs. NR 700-799. Hiring a qualified environmental consultant is needed to investigate and remediate your property in accordance with local, state and federal rules.

More information

- Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 712 *Qualifications and Certifications*, RR-081 (Go to

RR-502



Guidance for Management of Contaminated Soil and Other Solid Wastes - Wis. Admin. Code §§ NR 718.12 and NR 718.15

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Purpose

This guidance is intended for use by responsible parties when excavating contaminated soil and other solid waste that may not warrant disposal at an operating, licensed landfill. This guidance describes several approvals that may be available in such situations.

Related DNR Guidance

The following documents may also be useful:

- *Exempting Low-Hazard Wastes from Solid Waste Regulations*, (WA-1645)
- *Obtaining DNR Approval Prior to Use of Imported Soil and Other Fill Materials on Voluntary Party Liability Exemption Sites*, Wis. Stat. § 292.15, (RR-041)
- *Waste Determinations & Recordkeeping*, WA-1152
- *PCB Remediation in Wisconsin under the One Cleanup Program Memorandum of Agreement*, (RR-786)
- *Guidance for Hazardous Waste*

Guidance: Coming Soon



New! RR-0124

Guidance on Addressing Contaminated Sediment
Sites (public notice this summer)



RR-800

Addressing Vapor Intrusion at Remediation Sites
(public notice this fall)



Infrastructure Funding

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | DNR.WI.GOV

EPA Brownfield Infrastructure Funding – WI awards

DNR

- Community-wide assessment funding for states and tribes/\$2M

Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission

- Community-wide Assessment/\$500,000

Manitowoc Community Development Authority

- Phase I Cleanup Area of the River Point District/\$500,000

Menasha

- Community-wide Assessment/\$500,000

West Allis

- Community-wide Assessment/\$500,000
- Revolving Loan Funding/\$3.5M

DNR \$2M Assessment Funding

Wisconsin Assessment Monies – Contractor Services

- Qualified Environmental Professionals
- Phase I ESAs, Phase II ESAs, Site Investigation, Remedial Action Plans

Wisconsin Assessment Monies – Community Managed

- Subgrant to Local Government
- Phase I ESAs, Phase II ESAs, Site Investigation, Remedial Action Plans

Dry Cleaner Inventory

- Completed by the DNR

Vapor Assessments

- Qualified Environmental Professionals
- Activities to assess vapor intrusion

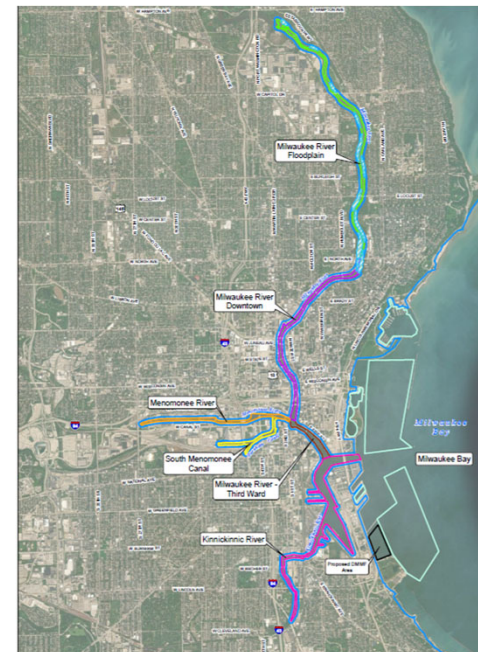
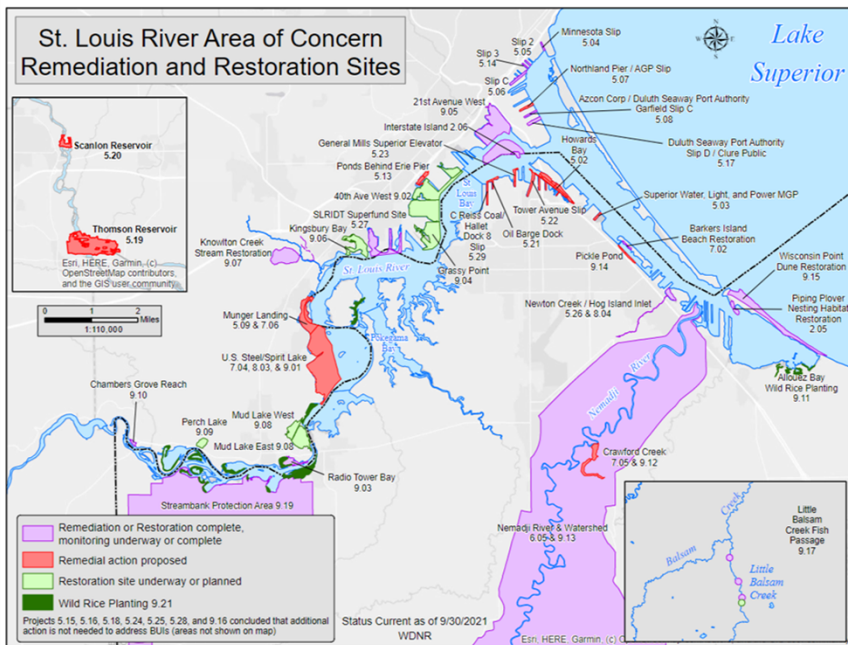
GLNPO Infrastructure Funds

- GLNPO will be receiving \$200 million each year for the next 5 years, for a total of \$1 billion (in addition to GLNPO's regular allocation)
- Remediating and restoring the Great Lakes AOCs and removing beneficial use impairments (BUIs)



GLNPO Infrastructure Funds

- DNR is working with GLNPO to secure \$100 million in funding to conduct major sediment remediation projects in both the St Louis and Milwaukee AOCs



Superfund Infrastructure Funds

- Site-specific grants to address “backlog” of Superfund work in the states
- Penta Wood first project to receive infrastructure funds in Region V
 - \$1.4M for continued PCP cleanup
- Several other grants for state Superfund landfills and electroplaters

128(a) Infrastructure Funds

- Provides up to \$2M per year, approximately double DNR's regular yearly allocation
- Utilizing a portion for mitigation of vapor sites investigated with the assessment grant
- Hiring additional staff to complete critical work

Staff Updates

- Ben Vondra, State & Federal Programs Section Chief (June 20, 2022)
 - Oversee all federal grants (except brownfields), as well as state funding
 - Administered the state's VW Settlement Fund and Governor's Pandemic grants



Open & Upcoming Recruitments

Posted Now:

- State Projects Coordinator
(Job ID 6458, open through 6/29/2022)
- Remediation Engineer
(Job ID 6481, open through 6/29/2022)

Coming Soon:

- Federal Programs Coordinator
- Complex Sites Expert (4-Year Project Position)
- Vapor Expert (4-Year Project Position)
- Vapor Dual LTE



Remediation and Redevelopment External Advisory Group

*Encourage investigation, cleanup and
redevelopment of contaminated sites in
Wisconsin*

Purpose and Scope

- Investigation and cleanup policies
- Recommendations to legislature and governor
- Recommendations to the DNR on how the agency implements programs
- Funding sources and other financial incentives
- Collaborative efforts with other DNR programs and outside partnerships

Membership

DNR

State Agencies

EPA

Local
Governments

WEDC

Consultants

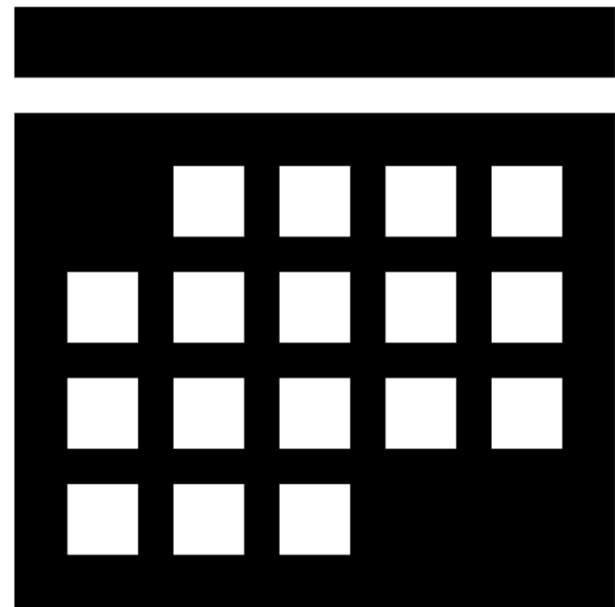
Interest Groups

Academia

RP
Representatives

Meetings

- Quarterly meetings – open to all
- First meeting
 - 9am – noon on July 15, 2022
 - GEF 2 – Madison, WI
- Agendas posted to webpage
wi.dnr.gov/topic/Brownfields/RREAG



CONNECT WITH US

Questions?

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dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/Contact.html



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"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"