



The WBWire

CONNECTING WESTERN BROWNFIELDS EFFORTS AND STAKEHOLDERS

U.S. EPA REGIONS 8, 9 & 10

FALL 2012

Grant & Training Opportunities

October 22, 2012: [Area-Wide Planning guidelines webinar](#) will be held at 12:00 pm (Mountain Time) or 11:00 am (Pacific Time). For audio call: 866-299-3188 / code: 202 566 2773 and for the webinar screen enter as a guest [here](#).

November 8, 2012: [Improving Community Health through Land Reuse and Re-development Webinar](#) held by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

November 13, 2012: [Symposium: The Role of Green Preservation in Creating and Maintaining Sustainable Communities](#), San Francisco, CA.

November 14, 2012: [EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Grant proposals](#) submission deadline.

November 19, 2012: [EPA Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup Grant proposals](#) submission deadline.

November 30, 2012: [EPA Area-wide Planning Grant proposals](#) submission deadline.

Winter 2013: [EPA Job Training Grant](#) proposal guidelines will be released.

April 30 & May 1, 2013: [Colorado Brownfields Conference](#), Lakewood, CO.

May 15-17, 2013: Registration is now open for the [National Brownfields Conference](#), Atlanta, GA.



Brownfield News



Above and right: Cooley Landing, San Francisco Bay

Cooley Landing is a 9-acre peninsula in San Francisco Bay that served as a county dump until 1958. The nearby East Palo Alto community (largely comprised of minority and low-income residents) is turning the vacant peninsula into a nature park that features the city's first public access to San Francisco Bay. The East Palo Alto Redevelopment Agency and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District used \$600,000 in Recovery Act funds from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's brownfields loan fund and \$400,000 in brownfields

cleanup grants to conduct a \$1m site cleanup. The project includes a 2-foot soil cap, revegetation using native and drought-tolerant species and the renovation of a 1950s former boat repair shop to create a new 3,125-square-foot education center and community meeting space. The East Palo Alto park opened this summer. Read more about the [East Palo Alto park project opening](#) and [Cooley Landing](#).

In this Edition of the WBWire:

- *It's grant season!* Find grant and technical support information and training opportunities (p.1).
- The Shoshone-Bannock Tribe opens a new state-of-the-art hotel and event center on a former brownfield (p. 2).
- Green and affordable senior living in Aurora, Colorado (p.2)



Smart Growth Technical Assistance, Phoenix Awards, and Brownfields Grants

- **Free Technical Assistance** for **Building Sustainable Communities**: Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities provides quick, targeted technical assistance designed to help stimulate a discussion about growth and strengthen local capacity to implement sustainable approaches. [EPA application deadline is October 26, 2012](#); [Smart growth deadline is October 25, 2012](#); [Projects for Public Spaces deadline is November 2, 2012](#); [Global Green deadline is November 2, 2012](#); and [Forterra's deadline will be February 2013](#).
- The Phoenix Awards inspire and recognize exemplary brownfield redevelopment and revitalization. The call for **Phoenix Award** applications has been extended until December 14, 2012.
- EPA has recently released the following requests for **Brownfield grant** proposals:
 - * [Brownfields Assessment, Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund \(ARC\) Grants](#) - Proposals due November 19, 2012. Need a little guidance with your ARC application? You can listen to the [archived grant guideline webinars](#) from this summer.
 - * [Brownfields Area-Wide Planning \(AWP\) Grants](#) - Proposals due November 30. Need a little guidance with your AWP application? Attend the AWP guidelines webinar on October 22, 2012. See Webinar instructions in the green box on the left side of this page.
 - * [Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Grants](#) - Proposals due November 14, 2012.

Creating a Better Quality of Life for Seniors with the Help of Brownfields Funds in Aurora, Colorado



The City of Aurora is making a \$250,000 subgrant to the Aurora Housing Authority from its EPA capitalized Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) for asbestos abatement prior to the demolition of the Housing Authority's aging Buckingham Garden Townhomes. The demolition will make way for the new Village at Westerly Creek (225 housing units). The first phase of the project, which includes 55-units of public housing for seniors and people with disabilities, has already been completed and residents started moving in at the end of August. A few of the amenities of the new senior housing includes open space, walking paths, heated sidewalks, community garden plots,



energy star appliances, and photovoltaic panels used to light hallways and common areas. In addition to cleanup funding, EPA also conducted a Targeted Brownfields Assessment on the property to help the Housing Authority determine the extent of asbestos containing materials in the building and estimate abatement and disposal costs. [Click here to read the Aurora Sentinel's news story on the Village at Westerly Creek Redevelopment.](#)

Village at Westerly Creek, Aurora, Colorado. Top photo is courtesy of [Ejarchitecture.com](#). Lower photo is courtesy of [Aurora Housing Authority](#).

Doors Open at the New Shoshone-Bannock Hotel and Event Center in Fort Hall, Idaho

For years, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe has discussed how to bring much needed jobs to the area. In 2010, the tribe decided job growth could be achieved through the development of a state-of-the-art hotel and event center that would complement the Fort Hall Casino. Plans for construction were drafted but, before the ground could be broken, developers were faced with the all-too-familiar plague of contamination. The 83-acre development site housed a number of facilities including a trading post, restaurants, and a variety of clothing and jewelry stores. Additionally, there was an old gas station which had been found to have leaking underground storage tanks.

Using funds and assistance from the EPA Brownfields Tribal Response Program, The Shoshone-Bannock Tribe was able to conduct a series of



Phase I and Phase II assessments on the properties that cost approximately \$15,000. Asbestos was found to be the key contaminant of concern in 4 of the buildings. A total of nearly \$46,000 was used for further sampling and removal of the asbestos, which allowed for the subsequent safe deconstruction of the buildings. With the remaining property cleared of possible contamination, the site was finally ready for construction to begin in 2011.

The Hotel and Event center, which was funded through private bank

loans, cost nearly \$50 million to complete. An average of 100 workers were employed on site during the 14-month construction period, and a similar number will be employed through the direct operation of the expansive facility. The 164,000 square foot, 5 story hotel boasts 156 rooms, a sports grill, and a 1400-seat event center with meeting, conference, and banquet venues. Tribal members see this vast accomplishment as just the first phase of the larger Fort Hall Casino expansion.