

Fact Sheet: EPA Brownfield Clean Up Grant for

The Former Portland Chemical Work Site

680 Newfield Street (rear)

Middletown, CT

1. The US Environmental Protection Agency has about \$100 million available to be used towards completing environmental assessments and clean-ups at Brownfields.
2. Brownfields are former industrial or commercial properties that are either abandoned or underused due to the possibility of hazardous substance contamination.
3. With access to the Providence/Worcester Railroad and CT Route 3, the rear portion of the 680 Newfield Street property was formerly used as a chemical distribution center since the early 1960's to the 1990's.
4. After several years without receiving taxes for the property, the City foreclosed on the land in 2000 to re-sell or redevelop it as a viable piece of industrial/commercial real estate.
5. Early environmental investigations and clean-ups in 2001 led to the discovery of drums containing various chemicals that were buried beneath the property.
6. The City cooperated with the CT Department of Environmental Protection during the completion of an Emergency Response to remove the buried drums and surrounding soil. As documented in the Middletown Press, approximately 130 buried drums were unearthed and properly disposed during this Emergency Response.
7. The City applied for \$200,000 of grant money from the EPA to fully assess the environmental quality of this Brownfield site. Middletown received these funds and is currently assessing the site. The City is applying for a \$200,000 EPA grant to clean up the contamination identified on the site.
8. The City of Middletown would like to get its citizens involved with planning the clean-up, and redevelopment of this currently unusable industrial/commercial property.

The Planning, Conservation, and Development Department under the direction of Bill Warner, is preparing a draft of the final proposal for the EPA grant. This draft will be available for public review on this web site in the near future. Public comment is welcomed and encouraged.

Also the topic will be discussed at the following public meetings:

- Harbor Improvement Agency- Oct. 25th at 5:30pm
- Planning and Zoning Commission- Oct. 27th at 7:00pm
- Urban Forestry Commission- Oct. 28th at 4:00pm
- Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agency- Nov. 3rd at 7:00pm

All meetings are held in the Municipal Building which is which is fully wheelchair accessible.

For further information, contact Middletown's Planning, Conservation and Development at 860-344-3425.