



The Partnership CDC
West Philadelphia, PA



Allegheny West
Philadelphia, PA

**National Center for Neighborhood & Brownfields Redevelopment
Rutgers, the State University
33 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1958**

Engaging Communities: Brownfield Redevelopment for Community-Based Organizations

A Technical Assistance Program

**The National Center
for
Neighborhood & Brownfields Redevelopment
Rutgers, the State University
33 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1958
732-932-5475, x.720
<http://policy.rutgers.edu/brownfields>**

RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School
of Planning and Public Policy

In 2005, the USEPA selected the National Center for Neighborhood & Brownfield Redevelopment to develop a series of technical assistance modules to aid community-based organizations in their efforts to resurrect derelict brownfield properties in their communities.

The project produced five initial modules to provide community leaders with a common base of knowledge on the following critical aspects of brownfield redevelopment:

- Neighborhood Marketing, Improvement and Participation through Brownfields Redevelopment
- Planning and Visioning for Brownfields Reuse Within a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy
- Phase I Site Assessment: Brownfields Identification and Community Engagement
- Moving from Phase I to Phase II Site Assessments and Understanding Risks
- Financing and Insurance Programs for Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup

The second phase of this work focuses on sharing the tools with key organizations and the planning community across the country.

If you are interested in offering the technical assistance program in your community, please contact the Center for more information at: NCNBR@Rutgers.edu

OVERVIEW of the MODULES

1. Neighborhood Marketing, Improvement and Participation through Brownfields Redevelopment

This assistance involves tools and methods for helping a CBO to empower and engage neighborhood residents in neighborhood planning and brownfields redevelopment. It instructs CBOs in building local leadership capacity and fostering participation to raise the quality of life in the neighborhood. It also includes strategies for branding and promoting the assets of the neighborhood in order to attract investment to the brownfields site(s) within an overall neighborhood identity and marketing campaign.

2. Planning and Visioning for Brownfields Reuse in a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy

This module consists of community visualization tools including a group mapping exercise and area prioritization techniques. It also includes a basic primer on brownfields redevelopment, focusing on helping the CBO to determine its desired or appropriate role in site reuse and redevelopment as it relates to overall neighborhood revitalization goals.

3. Phase I Site Assessment: Brownfields Identification and Community Engagement

This assistance session covers the purposes, requirements and methodology of conducting Phase I site assessments. It focuses on the role of the CBO in gauging community preferences for future land development and engaging residents in Phase I site assessment methods, such as identification, mapping and gathering local histories of brownfields sites. The tools in this module help in understanding the components of Phase I site assessment reports and interpreting the implications of results on remediation and reuse decisions, particularly with regard to housing, open space and community-oriented end uses.

4. Moving from Phase I to Phase II Site Assessments and Understanding Risks

The goal of this assistance session is to help CBOs to interpret historical site assessment reports so that they can assess the potential areas of concern, know what to look for in Phase II reports, and know what questions to ask of technical consultants. The CBO will understand the purposes, requirements and methodology of the Phase II assessment process. The session also focuses on how the PA, SI and RI information affects remediation and reuse decisions, and where to look for programs and additional resources based on the opportunities and constraints of the particular site.

5. Financing and Insurance Programs for Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup

This assistance session presents educational materials that describe, in lay language, the programs and funding streams available for brownfields identification, assessment, remediation or redevelopment from public and private sources. The CBO receives assistance in understanding which programs apply to its sites and projects, how to access funds, and how to partner with other recipients of brownfields funding.