

Resource List

July 2006

Editors Note:  Denotes a new resource.

Asset-Based Community Development

Kretzmann, John P., and John L. McKnight. 2005. *Discovering Community Power: A Guide to Mobilizing Local Assets and Your Organization's Capacity*. Evanston, Ill.: Asset-Based Community Development Institute, Northwestern University.

This manual is intended to help community organizations not only improve their communities but also improve their ability to obtain funding from outside resources. Includes many checklists, guidelines, and self-evaluations. The three sections are, "How to assess and strengthen your proposal's relationships with and utilization of community assets," "How to identify and connect your non-profit organization's assets to this project," and "Tools which may be helpful in connecting both projects and organizations to community assets."

Snow, Luther K. 2001. *Community Transformation: Turning Threats into Opportunities*. Chicago: ACTA Publications.

While community disinvestment is still the primary threat faced by inner-city neighborhoods there are others to consider. These can include gentrification, population changes, political marginalization, and local industry changes. Eight case studies examine communities that have successfully dealt with these types of threats.

Alexander, Frank S. 2000. *Renewing Public Assets for Community Development*. Washington, D.C.: Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Each parcel of land is a potential resource in community revitalization and this paper explains the process of identifying tax delinquent properties and returning them to the tax rolls. These rehabilitated properties not only provide tax revenue but also increase the market appeal of entire neighborhoods.

Kretzmann, John P., and John L. McKnight. 1993. *Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community's Assets*. Evanston, Ill.: Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, Neighborhood Innovations Network.

One of the best guidebooks to asset-based community development. It clearly defines asset-based development and provides a method for identifying all types of assets from people to places to institutions. Chapters focus on developing individual capacity, identifying local

associations and organizations with power, and using local institutions to rebuild community.

Brownfields

 New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. 2005. *New Jersey Brownfields Redevelopment Resource Kit: Bringing New Jersey's Brownfields Back to Life*. Trenton, N.J.: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

The kit defines brownfields and discusses ways in which they may be redeveloped. A list of available state resources is provided. Resources are broken down into two categories: redevelopment categories and land use options.

Opp, Susan, and Sarah Hollis. 2005. *Contaminated Properties: History, Regulations, and Resources for Community Members*. Practice Guide No. 9. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

The guidelines concerning cleanup and redevelopment can often be overwhelming. Different types of pollution may require specific responses under different federal and state laws or regulations. The various rules may, however, become useful tools when an individual knows how to navigate through them. This guide offers a background history on federal and state laws and regulations. The guide also explains how these laws and regulations can be used to promote re-development and how would-be redevelopers can work with the requirements.

 *Road Map to Understanding Innovative Technology Options for Brownfields Investigation and Cleanup*. 4th Ed. 2005. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

Siegel, Lenny. 2005. *A Stakeholder's Guide to "All Appropriate Inquiries" (AAI): U.S. EPA's New Proposed Rule for Environmental Site Assessment*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

Greenstein, Rosalind, and Yesim Sungu-Eryilmaz, eds. 2004. *Recycling the City: The Use and Reuse of Urban Land*. Cambridge, Mass.: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

Part 2, "The Vacant Land and Brownfield Redevelopment Process" is particularly germane. Chapters include, "Turning Brownfields into Community Assets: Barriers to Redevelopment," and "The Role of Community Development Corporations in Brownfield Redevelopment." Includes glossary.

Bartsch, Charles. 2003. *Community Involvement in Brownfield Redevelopment*. Washington, D.C.: Northeast Midwest Institute.

Report emphasizes the importance of citizen participation in brownfields redevelopment and offers several strategies to achieve it. Examples are given from a variety of community-based redevelopment projects.

Brachman, Lavea. 2003. "Three Case Studies on the Roles of Community-Based Organizations in Brownfields and Other Vacant Property Redevelopment: Barriers, Strategies and Key Success Factors." *Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Working Paper*. Cambridge, Mass.: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

"These case studies [Chicago, IL, Philadelphia, PA, and Racine, WI] were researched and developed for use in a seminar focusing on roles that community-based organizations (CBOs) play in the reuse of brownfields and other underutilized properties, held at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in January, 2003." From the Paper's preface.

Kibel, Paul S. 2003. "City Soil: Urban Brownfields as Affordable Housing Sites." *Shelterforce* no. 130 (July/August).

Morrison, Dorothy, and Katrena Hanks. 2003. *Local Government and Community Engagement in Brownfields Redevelopment*. Washington, D.C.:

A review of local government policies and practices in conducting community outreach and education about brownfields. Two case studies are highlighted: Jersey City, New Jersey and Bridgeport, Connecticut.

2003. "Reclaiming Land and Community: Brownfields & Environmental Justice." Special Issue. *Race, Poverty and the Environment: A Journal for Social and Environmental Justice* 8, no. 1 (Winter).

Articles include, "Brownfields as a way to retake the cities," "How to look at a brownfield and a flower garden," "Brownfields revitalization without displacement — a progress report from Portland," and "Recommendations for responsible brownfield revitalization."

Coffin, Sarah L., and Peter B. Meyer. 2002. *Closing the Brownfield Information Gap: Practical Methods for Identifying Brownfields*. Practice Guide No. 3. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

This Guide presents a method for communities to address the brownfield information gap, allowing them to bypass individual property owner objections through a creative combination of existing formal and informal government records. Using assumptions based on the United States EPA's official definition of a brownfield, environmental, land use, and property tax information can be collected on an individual property basis. This allows communities to develop a comprehensive brownfields profile that will help reduce the stigma effect of suspected brownfields and will further community-wide redevelopment efforts.

Stasiak, Elizabeth, and David Borak. 2002. *Getting the Job Done: Strategies and Lessons Learned in Facilitating Brownfields Job Training*. Washington, D.C.: International City/County Management Association.

Case studies from the EPA funded Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots.

VanLandingham, H. Wade, and Peter B. Meyer. 2002. *Public Strategies for Cost-Effective Community Brownfield Redevelopment*. Practice Guide No. 1. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

This Guide assists economic development organizations, developers, and local government agencies in understanding the brownfield development process. The Guide demystifies the tangle of legal, technical, and financial issues involved. Workable approaches for development are identified, as well as best practices that lead to successful projects.

Wagner, Danielle Miller, and Riti Dhesi. 2002. *Growing Greener: Revitalizing Brownfields into Greenspace*. Washington, D.C.: International City/County Management Association.

Urban neighborhoods often lack significant greenspace; this volume provides guidance for turning contaminated land into parks and recreation areas. It reviews the steps needed to turn brownfields into greenspaces and includes a significant chapter on financing options. Case studies showcase San Francisco and Pittsburgh.

2001. *Brownfields Blueprints: A Study of the Showcase Communities Initiative*. Washington, D.C.: International City/County Management Association.

The Brownfields Showcase Communities Initiative was developed as a model to test the coordination of federal, state, and local resources and agencies as well as to see how they could jointly bring to bear the variety of resources needed to successfully reclaim brownfield sites for productive economic and social use. This volume not only features case studies but also reviews the federal agencies involved and their type and level of engagement. Case studies of particular interest include East Palo Alto, California and King County/Seattle, Washington. Each case study reviews the federal/state/local partnerships created and closes with a "lessons learned" section.

2001. "Linking Community Development to Brownfields Redevelopment." *Growing Smart Neighborhoods: Information, Models, and Trends for Community Developers*. November.

A handout to promote brownfields redevelopment.

California Center for Land Recycling. 2000. *Brownfield Redevelopment: Case Studies*. San Francisco: California Center for Land Recycling.

Greenberg, Michael, et al. 2000. "Brownfields, TOADS, and the Struggle for Neighborhood Redevelopment: A Case Study of the State of New Jersey." *Urban Affairs Review* 35, no. 5 (May 2000): 717-733.

Clapp, Tara Lynne, and Peter B. Meyer. 2000. *Brownfields and the Urban Commons: Common Property Frameworks in Urban Environmental Quality*. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

A theoretical approach to brownfields redevelopment, emphasizing the role of brownfields in the “urban commons”. The authors consider brownfields to be part of the commons because of community interests — the distribution of environmental risk and liability, economic vitality, and infrastructure quality.

Greenberg, Michael, and M. Jane Lewis. 2000. “Brownfields Redevelopment, Preferences and Public Involvement: A Case Study of an Ethnically Mixed Neighbourhood.” *Urban Studies* 37, no. 13 (December 2000): 2501-2514.

Results and analysis of a survey of Perth Amboy, New Jersey residents about brownfields redevelopment in their neighborhood. A majority of residents indicated a desire to participate in the redevelopment process.

Leigh, Nancey Green. 2000. *Promoting More Equitable Brownfield Redevelopment: Promising Approaches for Land Banks and Other Community Land Development Entities*. Cambridge, Mass.: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

This project identified land transfer procedures and processes through which land bank authorities and other community land development entities could receive vacant brownfield property that is tax-delinquent and environmentally contaminated, and arrange for remediation and sale of such property. The primary barrier typically associated with tax-delinquent properties is their low market values. While the land bank authority could be helpful in forgiving the property taxes owed on the parcel as an incentive for re-use, the property’s redevelopment potential is still thwarted by its having little-to-no market desirability. It is this more difficult question of how to address sites in areas where demand for property is low, and contamination further complicates redevelopment that this report focuses on.

Russ, Thomas H. 2000. *Redeveloping Brownfields: Landscape Architects, Planners, Developers*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

A handbook intended for site design professionals; it assumes a basic knowledge of site planning. Chapter on stakeholder identification and risk communication included. Includes glossary.

Van Horn, Carl, K.A. Dixon, Gregory Lawler, and Daniel Segal. 1999. *Turning Brownfields into Jobfields: A Handbook for Practitioners and Citizens on Making Brownfields Development Work*. New Brunswick, N.J.: John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Case studies, literature review, and stakeholder interviews are included in this resource guide for neighborhood brownfields redevelopment. Policy

recommendations focus on financing, insurance, partnerships, and community involvement.

Dalton, Kathy L. 1998. *Reclaiming Lost Ground: A Resource Guide for Community Based Brownfields Development in Massachusetts*. Boston: Lincoln Filene Center, Tufts University.

A guide to reclaiming abandoned and vacant lots. The intended audience is neighborhood residents, community activists, community development corporations, and community-based organizations.

Duggan, Paula. 1998. *Working on Brownfields: The Employment and Training Connection*. Washington, D.C.: Northeast Midwest Institute.

A pamphlet exploring the workforce dimension of brownfield redevelopment. Includes sidebar discussions of successful programs.

Pepper, Edith M. 1997. *Lessons from the Field: Unlocking Economic Potential with an Environmental Key*. Washington, D.C.: Northeast-Midwest Institute.

20 case studies of brownfields redevelopment. Of particular interest are the Lawrence Gateway Project in Lawrence Massachusetts (strong public participation), the Bryant Electric Plant in Bridgeport, Connecticut (redeveloped by the West End Community Development Corporation), and the Circle F Factory in Trenton, New Jersey (redeveloped into senior housing in partnership with Lutheran Social Ministries).

Community Development

Vidal, Avis, and Langley Keyes. 2005. *Beyond Housing: Growing Community Development Systems*. Washington, D.C.: Urban Institute.

An assessment of the Living Cities: National Community Development Initiative. 23 cities participated in the program. The Urban Institute visited each city and reports on the progress made by community development organizations and corporations.

Murphy, Patricia Watkins, and James V. Cunningham. 2003. *Organizing for Community Controlled Development: Renewing Civil Society*. Thousand Oaks, Cal.: Sage Publications.

Examines citizen participation and the development and retention of "small place communities". Topics covered include affordable neighborhood housing, business district renewal, and workforce development.

Saegert, Susan, J. Phillip Thompson, and Mark R. Warren, eds. 2001. *Social Capital and Poor Communities*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Provides a theoretical underpinning for the concepts of asset-based community development and community building. The contributors

explore how groups, such as church congregations, parent-teacher associations, tenant associations, and community improvement alliances, build networks of leaders and create social power.

Peterman, William. 2000. *Neighborhood Planning and Community-Based Development: The Potential and Limits of Grassroots Action*. Thousand Oaks, Cal.: Sage Publications.

The author is an advocate of neighborhood-based development however he raises the question of how effective grassroots development is in the long term. "Community empowerment may be at the heart of neighborhood development, but it is not the only thing that is necessary."(p. 5) Peterman suggests that by redefining what we mean by "neighborhood", and "community", as well as "community empowerment" planners and advocates can more effectively bring about urban revitalization.

 Shutkin, William A. 2000. *The Land that Could Be: Environmentalism and Democracy in the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.

A theoretical argument for combining environmentalism with community based advocacy. Among other projects, the author highlights a brownfields project in Boston.

Szpunar, Carole B. 1999? *Partnerships in Urban Redevelopment*. Argonne, Ill: Argonne National Laboratory.

A report on Argonne National Laboratory's partnerships with neighborhood nonprofits. Projects profiled include energy efficient affordable housing, contaminated land re-use, urban transit, and job development opportunities.

Mattessich, Paul, and Barbara Monsey. 1997. *Community Building: What Makes it Work: A Review of Factors Influencing Successful Community Building*. St. Paul, Minn.: Amherst H. Wilder Foundation.

Criteria and factors for success are based on a review of 525 evaluative studies on community building. Factors are divided into three categories: Characteristics of the community, Characteristics of the community building process, and characteristics of community building organizers.

1997. *Voices from the Field: Learning from the Early Work of Comprehensive Community Initiatives*. Washington, D.C.: Aspen Institute.

Discusses the history and principles of Comprehensive Community Initiatives (CCIs).

Stone, Rebecca, ed. 1996. *Core Issues in Comprehensive Community-Building Initiatives*. Chicago: Chapin Hall Center for Children.

Citizen Participation Techniques

Cairns, Karen. 2005. *Public Involvement: How Active Participation in Environmental Issues and Decisions Makes Economic Sense and Broadens the Knowledge Base*. Practice Guide No. 12. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

Guide provides a brief summary of the benefits and costs of public involvement for environmental programs or plans and agencies involved. Key points to consider when initiating public involvement are listed and illustrated with several case studies. A list of useful resources, including books and websites, is given at the end.

Depoe, S. P., Delicath, John W., and Aepli Elsenbeer, M.-F., eds. 2004. *Communication and Public Participation in Environmental Decision-Making*. Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press.

Lukas, Carol, and Linda Hoskins. 2003. *Conducting Community Forums: Engaging Citizens, Mobilizing Communities*. St. Paul, Minn.: Amherst H. Wilder Foundation.

Successful forums require careful planning, artful design, strategic communications, careful attention to detail, and the participation of many people, often with conflicting interests. This book walks readers through all the stages of planning, holding, and evaluating community forums.

National Civic League. 2000. *The Community Visioning and Strategic Planning Handbook*. Denver, Colo.: National Civic League Press.

This handbook was written for citizens and citizen groups to encourage “bottom-up” identification of problems and solutions within communities.

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee. 2000. *The Model Plan for Public Participation*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

Sanoff, Henry. 2000. *Community Participation Methods in Design and Planning*. New York: Wiley.

Though the intended audience is design professionals, this is still one of the best resources available on community participation tools and techniques.

Bernard, Ted, and Lora Young. 1997. *The Ecology of Hope: Communities Collaborate for Sustainability*. Gabriola Island, B.C.: New Society Publishers

Examples of how communities have collaborated to create sustainable plans and/or reach consensus on difficult environmental issues.

 Moore, C. Nicholas, and Dave Davis. 1997. *Participation Tools for Better Land Use Planning*. Sacramento, Cal.: Local Government Commission.

Environmental Justice

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Cumulative Risks/Impacts Work Group. 2004. *Ensuring Risk Reduction in Communities with Multiple Stressors: Environmental Justice and Cumulative Risks/Impacts*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

Portney, Kent E. 2003. *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously: Economic Development, the Environment, and Quality of Life in American Cities*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.

Breggin, Linda. 2002. *A Citizen's Guide to Using Federal Environmental Laws to Secure Environmental Justice*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Law Institute.

Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. 2002. *Environmental Justice Collaborative Model: A Framework to Ensure Local Problem-Solving: Status Report*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

A summary of the 15 Interagency Environmental Justice Action Agenda demonstration projects; these projects promoted proactive partnerships among community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, business and industry, and local governments to address environmental justice issues. Each project is summarized with a list of benefits, project milestones, partnerships, and lessons learned.

 Litt, Jill S., Nga L. Tran, and Thomas A. Burke. 2002. "Examining Urban Brownfields through the Public Health 'Macroscopic'." *Environmental Health Perspectives* 110, supplement 2 (April): 183-193.

Incorporating public health concerns into Brownfields redevelopment will ensure successful neighborhoods and provide long-term health benefits.

Singer, Molly, et al. 2002. *Righting the Wrong: A Model Plan for Environmental Justice in Brownfields Redevelopment*. Washington, D.C.: International City/County Management Association.

A guide for local governments and community groups to develop their own policies and processes to strategically address brownfield and environmental justice issues. Based upon the "City of Clearwater [Florida] Environmental Justice Action Agenda."

Bullard, Robert D. 2000. *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class, and Environmental Quality*. 3rd ed. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press.

One of the first monographs to examine the cause of environmental justice. Using several case study sites in Texas, West Virginia, Louisiana, and Alabama the author extracts action strategies for any citizen or community group interested in fighting for the cause.

Byrne, John. 1999. *The Brownfields Challenge: A Survey of Environmental Justice and Community Participation Initiatives among Ten National Brownfield Pilot Projects*. Newark, Del.: Center for Energy and Environmental Policy.

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Waste and Facility Siting Subcommittee. 1996. *Environmental Justice, Urban Revitalization, and Brownfields: The Search for Authentic Signs of Hope*. Washington, D.C.: Environmental Protection Agency.

Summarizes a series of public hearings, sponsored by the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council entitled, "Public Dialogues on Urban Revitalization and Brownfields: Envisioning Healthy and Sustainable Communities. The hearings were held in Boston, Philadelphia, Detroit, Oakland, and Atlanta.

Financing

 Wernstedt, Kris, and Jennifer Hanson. 2006. *Areawide Brownfield Regeneration through Business-Based Land Trusts and Progressive Finance*. Working Paper. Cambridge, Mass.: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

Explores brownfields redevelopment on the neighborhood scale — arguing that scattered site redevelopment does not necessarily promote area revitalization. Uses a Milwaukee case study.

Bartsch, Charles, and Barbara Wells. 2005. *State Brownfield Financing Tools and Strategies*. Washington, D.C.: Northeast-Midwest Institute.

Opp, Susan. 2005. *Brownfield Redevelopment: Make it Possible!* Practice Guide No. 10. Louisville, Ky.: Center for Environmental Policy and Management.

Many individuals interested in brownfield redevelopment do not realize that many non-brownfield specific financing mechanisms are available to accomplish a redevelopment project. This practice guide offers some insights into non-brownfield specific financing mechanisms and examples where these have been successfully used.

Bartsch, Charles, and Barbara Wells. 2003. *Financing Strategies for Brownfield Cleanup and Redevelopment*. Washington, D.C.: Northeast-Midwest Institute.

Primarily a discussion of federal, state, and local programs.

Simons, Robert A. 1998. *Turning Brownfields into Greenbacks: Developing and Financing Environmentally Contaminated Urban Real Estate*. Washington, D.C.: Urban Land Institute.

Toth, Kirstin S., and Donald T. Iannone. 1996. *A Report on the Workshop on Benchmarking Best Practices in Brownfield Finance*. Cleveland: Cleveland State University Urban Center.

Allied Organizations

[Asset-Based Community Development Institute](#)

John Kretzmann and John L. McKnight built the Asset-Based Community Development Institute (ABCD), established in 1995 by the Community Development Program at Northwestern University's Institute for Policy Research, upon three decades of community development research. The ABCD Institute spreads its findings on capacity-building community development in two ways: (1) through extensive and substantial interactions with community builders, and (2) by producing practical resources and tools for community builders to identify, nurture, and mobilize neighborhood assets.

[Center for Brownfields Initiatives at the University of New Orleans](#)

Has a mission to facilitate brownfields redevelopment education, training, and technology transfer.

[Center for Creative Land Recycling](#)

CCLR promotes the reuse and recycling of previously developed and passed-over land and buildings in both urban and rural areas, with a focus on environmentally distressed properties, or what are more commonly known as brownfields.

[Center for Energy and Environmental Policy, University of Delaware](#)

Established in 1980 at the University of Delaware, the Center is a leading institution for interdisciplinary graduate education, research, and advocacy in energy and environmental policy. The Center is composed of an internationally diverse faculty and research staff with backgrounds in a variety of disciplines including economics, sociology, geography, political science, philosophy, engineering, urban planning and environmental studies.

[Center for Environmental Policy and Management, University of Louisville](#)

Specializes in the economic development — environmental protection intersections, including contaminated land redevelopment and smart growth planning. As part of the Kentucky Institute for the Environment and Sustainable Development (KIESD), the center has access to colleagues from across the university. The Center operates through three research teams with overlapping members: Brownfields/Smart Growth Research Group, Environmental Policy Research, and EPA Region 4 Southeast Regional Environmental Finance Center.

[Chapin Hall Center for Children](#)

Chapin Hall is a research and development center that brings the highest standards of scholarship and the intellectual resources of one of the world's great research universities (University of Chicago) to the real-world challenges of policymakers and service providers struggling to ensure that children grow, thrive, and take their place in a formidable world. As part of their programming they also address the larger issue of community development.

[Environmental Law Institute](#)

Brownfields Center provides essential information on brownfields cleanup and redevelopment with a focus on the concerns and needs of community groups across the country. The Center's goal is to encourage and support effective citizen participation in the redevelopment of brownfields.

[EnviroTools](#)

The EnviroTools website (developed by Michigan State University) is aimed at community assistance leaders, outreach assistance providers and citizen leaders. The site provides easy access to fact sheets and presentations in a form that can be distributed to communities

[Fieldstone Alliance](#)

Committed to building the capacity of leaders and organizations to work together to improve their communities and strengthen the nonprofit sector locally, nationally, and internationally. A spin-off from the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation.

[Groundwork USA](#)

Groundwork USA helps people reuse brownfields for community benefit. While the goal of most government programs is to reuse brownfields for economic development, many brownfield sites are being left behind because they are too small, surrounded by blight, or located in areas with other constraints, such as flood plains or dense residential neighborhoods. Groundwork is working to fill the gap.

[International City/County Management Association](#)

ICMA is the professional and educational organization for chief appointed managers, administrators, and assistants in cities, towns, counties, and regional entities throughout the world. The Association has published several reports on the topic and has a website devoted to brownfields issues.

[Lincoln Institute of Land Policy](#)

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy was founded in 1974 to improve the quality of public debate and decisions in the areas of land policy and land-related taxation. The Institute's goals are to integrate theory and practice to better shape land policy and to provide a nonpartisan forum for discussion of the multidisciplinary forces that influence public policy. Inspired by the work of Henry George, the Lincoln Institute introduces his thinking and ideas into the contemporary land and tax policy debate to advance a more equitable and productive society.

[Local Initiatives Support Corporation](#)

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation is a national community development intermediary, dedicated to supporting the neighborhood revitalization efforts of community development corporations (CDCs).

[Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington](#)

A non-profit, independent organization created in 1969 to continue programs established in 1934 under the Bureau of Governmental Research at the University of Washington. Our mission is "working together for excellence in local government through professional consultation, research and information services." The center serves communities in Washington State and is funded through a liquor excise tax. The brownfields portion of their website contains information of national relevance.

[National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals](#)

NALGEP was created to assist those at the local government levels (county, city, town, village or other municipal entity, or regional association of local government entities) responsible for dealing with environmental concerns. Most, if not all, local government entities are required to or voluntarily undertake environmental activities. NALGEP was established in recognition that local government environmental professionals are often confronted with tight budgets, complicated requirements and problems which, although are first-time problems for a particular local entity, may have been encountered and dealt with by other localities.

[National Center for Neighborhoods and Brownfields Redevelopment](#)

The Rutgers Board of Governors as a strategic planning initiative of the University has designated the National Center for Neighborhood and Brownfields Redevelopment. Its mission is to establish itself as a pre-eminent university-based center for neighborhood and brownfield redevelopment focused on the three themes of service, education and research. The Center seeks to educate community leaders about the complex inter-relationships between brownfields and neighborhood redevelopment.

[National Environmental Justice Advisory Council](#)

A federal advisory committee established to provide independent advice, consultation, and recommendations to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on matters related to environmental justice.

[National Vacant Properties Campaign](#)

The National Vacant Properties Campaign exists to provide individuals, advocates, agencies, developers, non-profits, and others with information resources, tools, and assistance to support their vacant property revitalization efforts. These revitalization efforts also include brownfields.

[Northeast-Midwest Institute](#)

A Washington-based, private, non-profit, and non-partisan research organization dedicated to economic vitality, environmental quality, and regional equity for Northeast and Midwest states. Institute has done extensive work in the area of brownfield redevelopment.

[PolicyLink](#)

A national nonprofit research, communications, capacity building, and advocacy organization working to advance policies to achieve economic and social equity. The brownfields portion of the site is found under the Equitable Development Tool Kit.

[SMARTe](#)

Sustainable Management Approaches and Revitalization Tools — electronic is a free, web-based decision support system for developing and evaluating future re-use scenarios for contaminated land. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research developed the tool. It is currently available in a beta format.