

## Cherryvale, Kansas

### Brownfields Assessment Project

EPA Cooperative Agreement Numbers: 2B97707501 &  
2B97707601  
Fact Sheet #3



# Cherryvale's Brownfields Project

Does Cherryvale have brownfields? Cherryvale, like most communities, has properties that are abandoned, under-used or blighted. These properties, or Brownfields, are common to all communities, both in rural and urban areas. They can be the former lumberyard, the corner feed mill abandoned in the 1950s, or the vacant City lot where the old factory burned down when "Dad was a kid".

## EPA's Brownfields Assessment

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Program was created to assist communities and businesses. This is demonstrated by EPA grants that provide the needed resources to sort through the numerous Brownfields properties from those few properties that require regulatory intervention. These grants help communities' brownfields a manageable part of local redevelopment.

The City of Cherryvale has received two EPA Brownfields Assessment grants to conduct Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and Phase II assessments. These assessments are conducted **free of charge** for qualifying properties in Cherryvale.

## How do I know if my property (or a property I am interested in buying) is a brownfield?

In simple terms, a property is considered a brownfield if contamination – or the *possibility* of contamination – is interfering with its reuse. These properties could be anything from a former row front store with suspected asbestos, to a former manufacturing facility, to the vacant lot in the middle of downtown.

## An example brownfields project in Cherryvale

The State of Kansas made the decision to close the National Guard Armory in Cherryvale and turn the property over to the City of Cherryvale. Prior to taking title to the property, the City utilized funds in the brownfields grant to have a Phase I ESA conducted to determine if potential environmental issues were present at the property. The Phase I ESA recommended soil and groundwater sampling be conducted to determine if former vehicle maintenance activities had impacted the property. Phase II activities were conducted under grant funds to collect soil and groundwater samples at the site, as well as evaluate the presence of asbestos and lead based paint within the building. Phase II sampling activities did not reveal environmental contamination at levels that would require cleanup for a residential scenario. Asbestos and lead based paint sampling provided the City information to plan for remodeling activities.



Much of the information collected at the former National Guard Armory property through the brownfields program was used to support the City's application for a \$300,000 grant through the KAN-STEP program to create a community center at this location.



## For questions and comments, please contact:

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