COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE





GRANT PROGRAMS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TOOLS FOR COMMUNITIES



U.S. EPA REGION 7

SERVING IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA AND NINE TRIBAL NATIONS

EPA Region 7

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 office supports communities in the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and nine tribal nations. The purpose of this guide is to assist community leaders, local government officials, non-profits, citizens, and businesses in identifying EPA resources that can support community efforts to protect and renew the environment and create a healthier and more sustainable future for their citizens. This guide can also be used by states and tribes to reach out to their communities and share information about EPA resources.

The guide is divided into four sections: Grant Programs, Technical Assistance Resources, Information Tools, and Additional EPA Region 7 Information Resources. For additional information about EPA Region 7 community resources, visit the "Community and Tribal Grant Program Catalog" at

www.epa.gov/region7/grants_funding/pdf/summary_of_community_and_tribal_programs.pdf or contact us at:

Community Resource Guide Contact

Name: Monica Espinosa Phone: 913-551-7541

Email: espinosa.monica@epa.gov

EPA Region 7 Call Center

Phone: 913-551-7003 Toll-free: 1-800-223-0425

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

GRANT PROGRAMS

The following is a summary of several grant programs offered by EPA Region 7 that are applicable to communities. While this list is focused on grants programs relevant to communities, the information does not represent all of EPA's available grant programs. For more comprehensive information about EPA's grant programs, visit our regional website at: www.epa.gov/region7/grants_funding.

The grant programs listed below include a picture key indicating the types of entities that are eligible to apply. Also provided is a website to visit for more information as well as EPA Region 7 contacts.

KEY: Grant Program Eligible Entities



Local Governments & Municipalities



Non-Profit Groups & Educational Institutions



Citizens



Businesses

Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program

Brownfield and Land Revitalization programs provide funding and/or direct assistance to communities to help remove barriers to sustainable development, especially at properties where hazardous substances are suspected to be present.

- Assessment Grants Recipients inventory, characterize and assess sites; conduct cleanup and redevelopment planning; and engage community participation.
- **Revolving Loan Fund Grants** Enables states, political subdivisions, and Indian tribes to make low-interest loans to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield properties.
- Cleanup Grants Recipients carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.
- Job Training Grants Eligible entities recruit unemployed and under-employed residents; provide skills training for an environmental field; and place graduates in full-time, sustainable employment, possibly in brownfield and assessment work of community.
 - Targeted Brownfield Assessment Help states, tribes, and municipalities minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with brownfield sites. EPA contractors provide assessment services for the benefit of the requesting organization.
 - Area-Wide Planning Grants Recipient facilitates community involvement in 1) fine-tuning an ongoing planning process for area-wide assessment, cleanup, and reuse, 2) developing an area-wide plan covering these matters, and 3) determining next steps and identifying resources needed to implement the plan.

Website: www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info

Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program (continued)

Land Revitalization Direct Assistance Contacts:

> **Brownfield Coordinator Brownfield Assessment Grants Brownfield Cleanup Grants Brownfield Job Training Grants Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants** Targeted Brownfield Assessment Area-Wide Planning Grants

Brad Eaton, (913) 551-7265 Susan Klein, (913) 551-7786 Devin Pollock, (913) 551-7275 Deb Kennedy, (913) 551-7628 Alma Moreno-Lahm, (913) 551-7380 Alma Moreno-Lahm, (913) 551-7380 Todd H. Davis, (913) 551-7749 Brad Eaton, (913) 551-7265

Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Fund Programs









The Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program can be an integral component of a city or regional sustainability strategy by providing low-interest loans for water quality protection projects for wastewater treatment, nonpoint source pollution control, and watershed and estuary management. State water pollution control programs receive grant funds and, in return, loan monies to communities in need at low rates.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/grants funding/cwsrf/cwsrf index.cfm

Kansas and Missouri - Sabre Germano, (913) 551-7026; Nebraska - Rao Surampalli, (913) 551-7453; Contacts:

Iowa - Christopher Simmons, (913) 551-7812

Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs







The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program's goal is to provide states with a financing mechanism for ensuring safe drinking water to the public. The program encourages funding for small and disadvantaged communities, and to programs that encourage pollution prevention as a tool for ensuring safe drinking water. Community water systems, both publicly and privately owned, and non-profit non-community water systems are eligible for funding under this program.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/grants funding/dwsrf

Kansas and Missouri - Sabre Germano, (913) 551-7026; Nebraska - Rao Surampalli (913) 551-7453; Contacts:

Iowa - Christopher Simmons, (913) 551-7812

Environmental Education







The Environmental Education Program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques; and it provides the skills needed to make informed decisions and to take responsible actions.

Website: http://www2.epa.gov/education

Contact: Kathleen Fenton, (913) 551-7874

Environmental Justice Small Grants







The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public health issues in their communities. Successful collaborative partnerships involve not only well-designed strategic plans to build, maintain, and sustain the partnerships, but also working towards addressing the local environmental and public health issues.

Website: www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants.html

Contact: Althea Moses, (913) 551-7649

Five Star Restoration Program 👔 🐼



The Five Star Restoration Program provides modest assistance on a competitive basis to support community on-the ground wetland, riparian, in-stream, and/or coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities.

> Website: www.urbanwaters.gov/nfwf.html

Contact: Jason Daniels, (913) 551-7443



Indoor Air Quality Program









EPA Region 7 provides outreach, grants, and technical assistance to assist citizens in improving the indoor air they breathe. Chemicals and compounds contributing to indoor air pollution include radon, tobacco smoke, paints, and other chemicals. Related issues include proper ventilation, mold abatement, household cleaning, and indoor fuel combustion of wood, oil, and gas.

Website: www.epa.gov/iaq/ia-intro.html

Contacts: Bob Dye, (913) 551-7605; Gina Grier, (913) 551-7078

National Clean Diesel Campaign







The National Clean Diesel Campaign builds on the success of its regulatory and non-regulatory efforts to reduce emissions from diesel engines. The campaign is working to reduce the pollution emitted from diesel engines across the country through the implementation of varied technologies, including the retrofit, repower, or replacement of diesel vehicles. EPA offers grant funding for these projects.

Website: www.epa.gov/diesel

Contact: Greg Crable, (913) 551-7391

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program





Under the Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program, states, territories, and tribes receive grant money that supports a wide variety of activities including technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects, and monitoring to assess the success of specific nonpoint source implementation projects. States, territories, and tribes may offer a variety of grant and assistance programs to communities for watershed protection. NPS programs are implemented through a combination of education and outreach projects and watershed-based plans to restore and maintain critical water bodies.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/index.cfm

Contact: Steve Schaff, (913) 551-7447

Urban Waters Small Grants





Urban Waters Small Grants provide eligible applicants the opportunity to fund research, studies, training, and demonstration projects that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities. These grants provide states, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, possessions of the U.S. (including the District of Columbia), public and private universities and colleges, public or private non-profit institutions, intertribal consortia, and interstate agencies an opportunity to do projects to access, improve, and benefit from their urban waters and the surrounding land.

Website: http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants

Contact: Jennifer Ousley, (913) 551-7498

Wetland Program Development Grants 🛍



Wetland Program Development Grants provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. These grants provide states, tribes, local governments, interstate agencies, and intertribal consortia an opportunity to carry out projects to develop and refine comprehensive wetland programs.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands/initiative index.cfm

Jennifer Ousley, (913) 551-7498 Contact:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



In addition to grants, EPA also provides technical assistance to communities to support their efforts to build healthy places to live, work, and play. The following section lists some of the technical assistance resources EPA Region 7 offers communities. For more comprehensive information, please visit our Regional website: www.epa.gov/region7.

Children's Health Protection Program

The Children's Health Protection Program supports and facilitates efforts to protect children's health from environmental threats. It is essential that children have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, safe food to eat, and a healthy environment in which to learn, grow, and thrive.

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/childrens_health.htm

Contact: LaTonya Sanders, (913) 551-7555

Community-Based Childhood Asthma Program

The Community-Based Childhood Asthma Program is a voluntary public health outreach program designed to reduce adverse health outcomes and economic burdens due to asthma by promoting best practices that integrate control of environmental triggers as a component of comprehensive asthma management.

Website: www.epa.gov/asthma

Contacts: Bob Dye, (913) 551-7605; Gina Grier, (913) 551-7078

ENERGY STAR®

A joint program of EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, ENERGY STAR® helps American businesses and consumers save money and protect the environment by investing in energy-efficient products and practices. EPA Region 7 provides support of this national initiative in homes, buildings, products, outreach technical assistance, and partner support throughout the region.

Website: www.energystar.gov

Contact: Craig Bernstein, (913) 551-7688



Environmental Finance Center

EPA has designated Wichita State University's Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs in Wichita, Kansas, as an Environmental Finance Center (EFC) to promote the development of environmentally and financially sustainable communities. Working to connect government entities with outside organizations, the EFC facilitates the sharing of tools, technologies, and resources offered by the national network of Environmental Finance Centers. The EFC provides training, technical assistance and applied research to local and state government professionals as well as tribes on various topics including utility asset management, utility rate setting, water system collaboration, drought/emergency planning, and utility energy efficiency.

Websites: www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/wsu efc.htm and www.wichita.edu/efc

Contact: Bob Dunlevy, (913) 551-7798

Healthy Homes Community Initiative

The Healthy Homes Community Initiative is a demonstration pilot in which EPA Region 7 partners with environmental, health, and energy organizations in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Partners provide educational information and services to help community members address concerns related to health and indoor environments.

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/healthy_homes.htm

Contact: Karim Dawani, (913) 551-7289

Kansas City Urban Water Monitoring Network

The Kansas City Urban Water Monitoring Network is a pilot effort in metropolitan Kansas City that monitors a network of urban streams and lakes, builds a partnership in the community to conduct monitoring and sharing of data in a repository at www.kcwaters.org, and uses real-time telemetry and data reporting of bacteria levels in local streams. One ultimate objective of the pilot project is to transfer its urban monitoring and data sharing protocols to application in other urban areas of Region 7.

Website: www.kcwaters.org

Contacts: Roberta Vogel-Leutung, (913) 551-7072; Dr. Gary Welker, (913) 551-7177

Kansas City Real-Time Bacteria Telemetry Project: KCWaterBug

The Kansas City Real-time Bacteria Telemetry Project monitors bacteria in real time throughout the metropolitan area, through the use of in-stream monitors that measure turbidity. Turbidity measurements are extrapolated to estimate bacteria counts through a calibrated process that has been shown to be scientifically reliable. Citizens now have information about the safety of waters regarding bacteria in real time, instead of waiting for bacteria cultures which take 24-48 hours. KCWaterBug, an app for iPhones and Android, shows real-time results.

Website: www.kcwaters.org/kcwaterbug.html

Contact: Roberta Vogel-Leutung, (913) 551-7072

Land Revitalization Initiative

The Land Revitalization Initiative promotes cross-program coordination on land reuse and revitalization projects to ensure that contaminated property is appropriately put back into productive use. Working in conjunction with government agencies at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as external partners, the Land Revitalization Initiative supports all stages of the land revitalization process. Whether sharing best practices, supporting assessments of neighborhoods and properties, or working with communities to envision redevelopment, EPA provides tools to facilitate successful results. Revitalized land can be used in many ways, including the creation of public parks, the restoration of wetlands, and the establishment of new businesses.

Website: www.epa.gov/landrevitalization

Contacts: Stan Walker, (913) 551-7494; Whitney Rawls, (913) 551-7678

Lead-Based Paint Program

The Lead-Based Paint Program focuses on the reduction of lead-based paint hazards in residential housing and child-occupied facilities. By accrediting trainers, certifying firms and individuals working with lead-based paint, and providing guidance to the general public, EPA assists in the elimination of childhood lead poisoning in coordination with local, state, and other federal agencies.

Website: http://www2.epa.gov/lead

Crystal McIntyre, (913) 551-7261; Maria Morey, (913) 551-7079

Middle Blue River Urban Waters Federal Partnership

This is one of 18 sites located throughout the country focusing federal assistance and resources from 14 signatory federal agencies on specific urban waters locations. The Middle Blue River Federal Partnership is focusing resources on four local projects in the area of the confluence of Brush Creek and the Blue River, in order to facilitate conservation, restoration, and community access to the rivers in an area undergoing active revitalization.

Website: www.urbanwaters.gov

Contact: Roberta Vogel-Leutung, (913) 551-7072

Radon Program

The Radon Program emphasizes reducing radon risks in homes located in identified high radon areas through focusing on key targets of opportunity, such as real estate transactions and new home construction. The program attempts to maximize the number of homes with radon-reducing features, thus minimizing the second leading cause of lung cancer.

Website: www.epa.gov/radon

Contacts: Bob Dye, (913) 551-7605; Gina Grier, (913) 551-7078

Regional Integrated Pest Management Grant Program

The Regional Integrated Pest Management Grant Program is a voluntary program that forms partnerships with pesticide users to reduce the potential health and environmental risks associated with pesticide use and implement pollution prevention strategies.

Website: www.epa.gov/pesp/grants

Contacts: Doug Jones, Agricultural IPM Grants, (913) 551-7592; Dick Wiechman, School IPM Grants, (402) 437-5080

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Community Involvement

Members of communities and owners/operators of hazardous waste management facilities play an integral role in the hazardous waste permitting process. EPA provides assistance to communities through a variety of technical assistance and training resources to help them participate in RCRA decisions at facilities in their communities.

Website: www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/tsd/permit/pubpart

Contact: Althea Moses, (913) 551-7649

Smart Growth

The Smart Growth Program works with local, state, and national experts to discover and encourage successful, environmentally sensitive development strategies in order to help communities grow in ways that expand economic opportunity, protect public health and the environment, and enhance neighborhoods. This program conducts research, publishes reports and other publications, showcases outstanding communities, works with communities through grants and technical assistance, and brings together diverse interests to encourage better growth and development.

Website: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth

Contact: David Doyle, (913) 551-7667

Superfund Community Involvement

EPA provides assistance to communities through a variety of technical assistance and training resources to help them participate in Superfund decisions at sites in their community.

Website: www.epa.gov/superfund/community/resources.htm

Contact: Althea Moses, (913) 551-7649

Urban Waters

The Urban Waters Initiative is a national effort that highlights the particular plight of urban waters. Its goals are to reconnect urban populations with their water bodies and encourage public-private partnerships for sustainable restoration and redevelopment of urban water bodies and surrounding lands. The initiative has a strong environmental justice thread, focused on including frequently excluded communities and community members in conversations and decision-making about water issues. A small grant program has been established to assist efforts under the Targeted Watershed Grant (TWG) Program.

Website: http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters

Contact: Jennifer Ousley, (913) 551-7498

WasteWise

WasteWise is a free, voluntary EPA partnership program assisting and recognizing businesses, governments, and organizations that reduce or eliminate costly municipal solid waste and select industrial wastes, benefiting both the environment and their bottom line.

Websites: www.epa.gov/region7/waste/solidwaste/wastewise.htm and www.epa.gov/wastewise

Contacts: Jennifer Dawani, (913) 551-7162; Steve Fishman, (913) 551-7158

WaterSense

WaterSense is a partnership program that seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by promoting water efficiency; enhancing the market for water-efficient products, programs and practices; and helping consumers identify water-efficient products and programs.

Website: www.epa.gov/watersense

Contact: Doug Brune, (913) 551-7178

INFORMATION TOOLS

EPA offers a variety of information tools to help communities learn more about the environmental conditions in their areas and ways to address environmental concerns. These resources come in a variety of forms such as mapping tools, searchable databases, environmental impact calculators, and assessment tools.

The following section highlights some of the useful information tools EPA offers to communities. For more comprehensive information, please visit EPA's Citizen Action website at: www.epa.gov/epahome/citizen.htm.



Adopt Your Watershed

The Adopt Your Watershed Program maintains a database of more than 2,600 watershed groups and provides information on community-based groups at work in watersheds, as well as opportunities to get involved in activities such as volunteer water monitoring, stream cleanups, and storm drain marking. The program also provides a Watershed Stewardship Toolkit with eight things communities can do to make a difference in their watersheds.

Website: www.epa.gov/owow_keep/adopt

Cleanups in My Community

This mapping tool helps users identify properties throughout the U.S. that have been contaminated by hazardous materials and have been cleaned up under EPA's Superfund, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and/or Brownfields programs.



Website: http://iaspub.epa.gov/Cleanups/

Co-Benefits Risk Assessment (COBRA) Air Screening Model

EPA's COBRA Air Screening Model is a free tool that helps state and local governments estimate and map the air quality, human health, and related economic benefits (excluding energy cost savings) of clean energy policies or programs. The COBRA screening tool also approximates the outcomes of clean energy policies that change emissions of particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, and volatile organic compounds at the county, state, regional, or national level.

Website: www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/resources/cobra.html

EJ View

Environmental Justice (EJ) View is a mapping tool that lets users create maps and generate detailed reports based on the geographic areas and data sets they choose.

Website: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/mapping.html

Green Communities Toolkit

Green Communities is a web-based toolkit and planning guide designed to help communities access the tools and information to help them become more sustainable and greener communities.

Website: www.epa.gov/greenkit/basicinformation.htm

Green Infrastructure Models and Calculators

This website offers tools to model stormwater runoff, water quality impacts from land use changes, benefits of green roofs and urban tree coverage, and pollutant load reductions. This site also offers tools to evaluate the performance of green infrastructure techniques and help quantify the costs and benefits of stormwater treatment devices and green infrastructure investments.

Website: http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/gi modelingtools.cfm

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator

This calculator can help communities educate residents about their personal greenhouse gas emissions and provide support to community-wide efforts aimed at reducing climate impacts.

Website: www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

Healthy Schools Toolkit

The outreach materials in this virtual toolkit were designed to help a range of customers – from the most knowledgeable school building professionals to the generally inquisitive – find up-to-date, school-focused environmental health education information on a range of topics, including basic presentations, fact sheets, local and national information resources, and contact information.

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/schools/toolkit.htm

Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit for Local Governments

This toolkit addresses the local code ordinances that affect the design, construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of a building and its immediate site. It contains an assessment tool, resource guide, and action plan development guide for implementing changes to the permitting process.

Website: www.epa.gov/region4/recycle/green-building-toolkit.pdf

Water Quality Scorecard

This tool helps local governments identify opportunities to remove barriers, and revise and create codes, ordinances, and incentives to better protect water quality.

Website: www.epa.gov/dced/water_scorecard.htm

ADDITIONAL EPA REGION 7 INFORMATION RESOURCES

EPA Region 7 Community Resource Reference

The Community Resource Reference is a brochure version of this Community Resource Guide. It includes the basic contact information for the grant programs, technical assistance, and information tools listed in this Guide.

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/citizens/pdf/r7 community resource brochure.pdf

EPA Region 7 Communities Information Digest

The Communities Information Digest is a compilation of news, funding opportunities, meetings, conferences, events, webinars and conference calls, as well as other community-related information and events, which is distributed by EPA Region 7 once or twice a month. Visit the Scribd website below to view past editions of the Digest. To subscribe, email: R7 POIS Communities Mailbox@epa.gov.

Website: www.scribd.com/EPARegion7/documents (browse for Digests)

EPA Region 7 Community and Tribal Grant Program Catalog

The Community and Tribal Grant Program Catalog is a summary of the available grant programs offered by EPA Region 7, and provides specific information on grant availability, time frames, and requirements.

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/grants funding/pdf/summary of community and tribal programs.pdf











December 2014