

Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center

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Annual Report

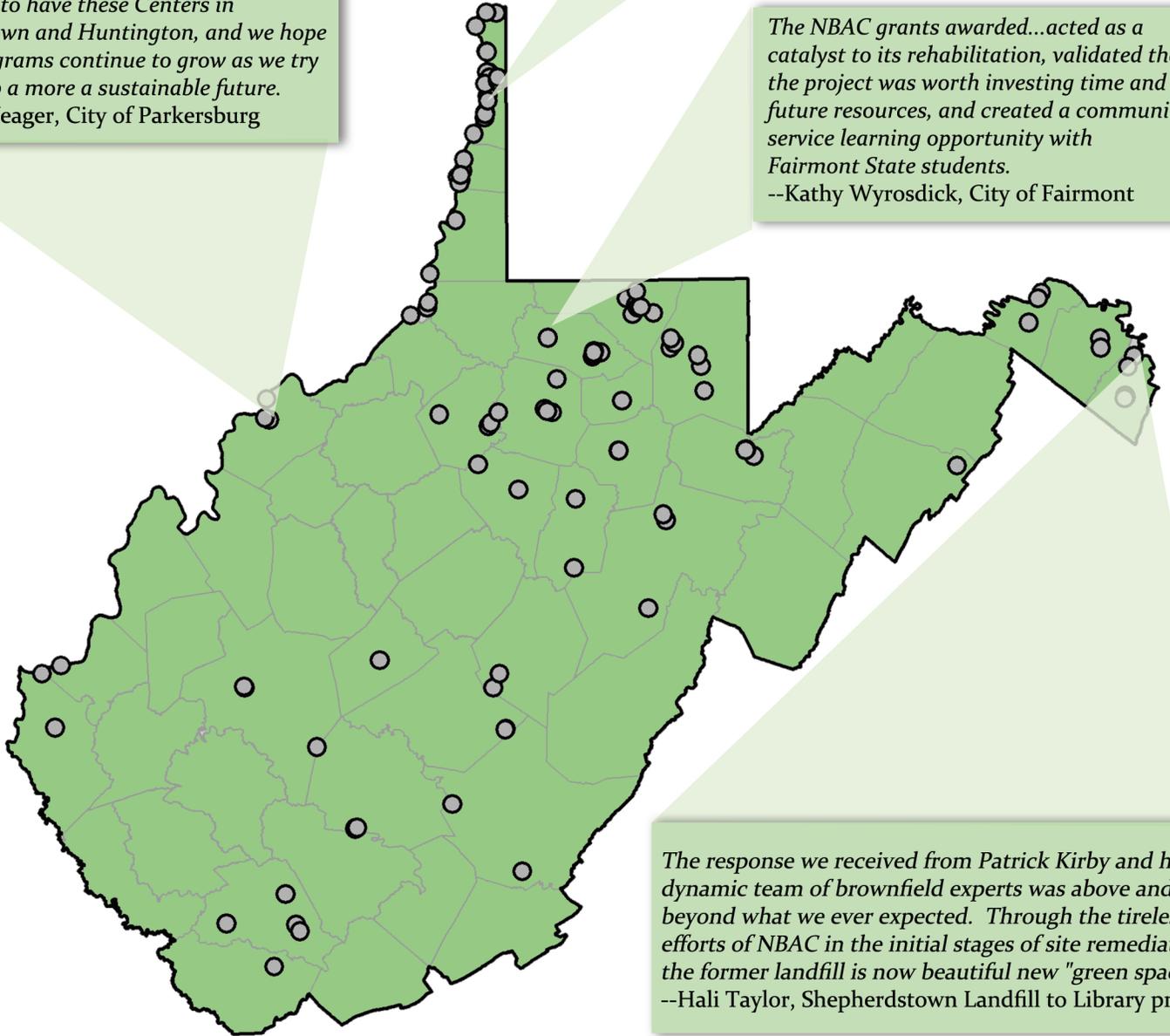
Working with People...

Since getting involved with the Centers, the City has secured more than \$224,000 in local, state and federal funds to identify, assess and redevelop brownfields. WV is fortunate to have these Centers in Morgantown and Huntington, and we hope these programs continue to grow as we try to develop a more a sustainable future.
--Rickie Yeager, City of Parkersburg

The NBAC staff has been invaluable to us on the Banner Site, the Brooke Glass Site, and the Gen Pak Site. We are seeing great success in revitalizing Wellsburg through our collaboration with the NBAC.
--Mark Henne, City of Wellsburg

The NBAC grants awarded...acted as a catalyst to its rehabilitation, validated that the project was worth investing time and future resources, and created a community service learning opportunity with Fairmont State students.
--Kathy Wyrosdick, City of Fairmont

The response we received from Patrick Kirby and his dynamic team of brownfield experts was above and beyond what we ever expected. Through the tireless efforts of NBAC in the initial stages of site remediation, the former landfill is now beautiful new "green space."
--Hali Taylor, Shepherdstown Landfill to Library project



Programs and Services

The Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center (NBAC) promotes economic development and environmental and public health protection through innovative redevelopment of brownfield sites in West Virginia's 33 northern counties. The NBAC is housed in the West Virginia Water Research Institute at the National Research Center for Coal and Energy at West Virginia University.



Patrick Kirby,
Director

Core Brownfields Programs

 <p>Brownfields Technical Assistance</p>	 <p>BAD Building Program</p>	 <p>WV Brownfields Inventory</p>	 <p>FOCUS WV</p>	 <p>WV Redevelopment Collaborative</p>	 <p>Brownfields Outreach and Education</p>
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Brownfields Assistance

The NBAC helps facilitate the redevelopment of brownfields properties by offering:

- Training and technical assistance;
- Assistance in engaging community stakeholders; and
- Assistance in grant writing and the leveraging of project funding.

What is a Brownfield?

A brownfield is a property that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse.

Brownfield Quick Facts

On average, \$18.01 is leveraged for each public grant dollar from the US EPA.

7.43 jobs are leveraged per \$100,000 of public US EPA funding.

Residential property values increased between 2 - 3 percent once a nearby brownfield was assessed or cleaned up.

Since its creation in 2005, NBAC has secured \$4 million in direct funding from the Claude W. Benedum Foundation, US Environmental Protection Agency, the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the WV State Legislature, and other sources. The Center has worked with 40 organizations including local governments, economic development authorities, state agencies, and non-profits to promote economic development on brownfields. The Center has awarded over \$475,000 in direct project grants to 55 brownfield projects leveraging over \$10 million in additional public and private investment. The Center has assisted in securing 17 federal EPA brownfield grants – including assessment, clean-up, job training, and revolving loan fund grants – totaling \$3,906,551. The Center is currently working on over 60 specific projects spanning 33 counties.



Brownfields Success in 2013

Ranson & Charles Town Mark Major Milestones on Commerce Corridor Project



Ranson & Charles Town received the 2012 People's Choice Phoenix Award at the 2013 National Brownfields Conference in May.

On May 16, 2013 the Ranson & Charles Town Commerce Corridor Project was honored to receive the prestigious brownfields 2012 People's Choice Phoenix Award at the National Brownfields Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The Commerce Corridor was selected from competition in EPA Region 3, which includes projects from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

The progress of the project did not stop with the national accolades. In December, a historic \$104 million ground breaking was held as 5 new projects including brownfield redevelopment continue along the corridor. The projects breaking ground included American Public University's (APUS) new

phase of investment in five new buildings and two parking structures, and the City of Ranson's transformation of a polluted and vacant brass foundry into a new downtown center. APUS's redevelopment plans will house hundreds of new employees and continue to revitalize former brownfields that straddle the border of Ranson and Charles Town. Ranson's new downtown center will turn \$200,000 in EPA clean-up dollars into a multi-million dollar, 100,000+ square foot, mixed-use facility with commercial, retail, and residential space.



Ranson and Charles Town celebrated a historic groundbreaking that includes over \$75 million in brownfields funding.

Future Shepherdstown Library Site Cleaned Up, Ready for Development



Shepherdstown celebrated the completed clean-up of the future library site at a "Brown Breaking" ceremony in October.

The Shepherdstown Library turned a page on exciting plans for constructing a green library on the former town dump to better serve over 18,000 residents in Jefferson County.

Snyder Environmental of Charles Town, WV, completed the \$718,000 clean-up of the 4.5 acre former Shepherdstown dump, marking the first physical step toward construction of a new \$3.5 million library on this brownfield site. Clean-up work began in late April and was completed in early fall.

The Shepherdstown Library Board of Trustees hired architectural firm Alexander Design Studio of Ellicott City, MD, to design a 12,000-square-foot green building on two floors with a 40-space parking lot. The NBAC and Library leadership have worked with the local community to identify needs for the new library space over the last several years. The new library facility will include community priorities such as open spaces for children, teens, and adults; a meeting room; and librarians' work room. Significant funding for the Library Project is being raised through a capital campaign thanks to the hard work of volunteers and the outpouring of

public support for this ambitious project.

Banner Fiber Board Site in Wellsburg to Be Redeveloped by Eagle Manufacturing

Banner Fiber Board was once a thriving paper manufacturing company strategically located on 4 acres on Route 2. Once operations were ceased, the property was left abandoned and dilapidated. With the assistance of brownfield assessment funding, the City of Wellsburg was able to facilitate the preparation for redevelopment. Thanks to a coordinated effort with the Brooke-Hancock Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission, a local employer purchased the site for an expansion. Eagle Manufacturing is investing \$3.5 million into the property to expand its manufacturing capacity by 40,000 square feet of warehouse and 1,200 square feet of office space. This successful redevelopment brings the property back on the tax rolls, and allows a major employer to expand its business and offer new local jobs.

Clarksburg Celebrates Two Stores on Former Glass Site

In late spring of 2013, years of hard work by the City of Clarksburg and their partners bore fruit (and a store full of other goodies)! The ribbon was cut on a Save-A-Lot and a Shop 'N Save grocery store on the former Adamston Flat Glass site. The new stores have created jobs, saved a neighborhood's livelihood, and created a positive reuse of the abandoned glass factory site. The City worked with the USEPA and WVDEP to clean up the property over the last 10 years to create the home of the two new retail facilities. The community has embraced the opening of the two supermarkets which will employ approximately 100 local residents.



Two grocery stores were opened on the site of a former glass factory in Clarksburg.

Creative Partnership to Redevelop Brownfield in Beech Bottom

The closure of longtime local employer RG Steel was bad news to the town of Beech Bottom and the Northern Panhandle. The local Economic Development Agency, the Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle (BDC) wouldn't settle for a "wait-and-see" approach to spark new jobs and investment in its backyard. Instead the BDC crafted a deal dubbed "The Deal of the Week" by The Wall Street Journal that may be remembered locally as the Deal of the Year.

When RG Steel sought bankruptcy protection in 2012, Los Angeles real estate firm Hackman Capital Partners purchased the company's Beech Bottom plant. After purchasing the site, Hackman resold the property to the BDC in a deal that gives the BDC control of the 613 acre property, including 120 acres of prime, developable flatlands fronting the Ohio River. Under the partnership, the BDC will assume the environmental legacy issues at the site, and Hackman Capital will retain the rights to the equipment on the property.



The BDC partnered with Hackman Capital to redevelop the former RG Steel site in Beech Bottom.

As a nonprofit organization, the BDC has access to state and federal funds to remediate contaminants on the site, resources that companies like Hackman Capital cannot access. Following site clean-up, the organizations will work together to market the property and share the proceeds from leases or sales. The Beech Bottom site offers an opportunity to diversify the regional economy by attracting employers to a property that was not previously available in the real estate inventory. Any industry that moves to the site will draw from the labor pool in West Virginia and neighboring communities in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Morgan County Receives \$200,000 Clean-up Grant for Planned Recreational Development

The Morgan County Board of Education received an EPA Clean-up Grant in 2013, 1 of 6 Region 3 recipients and the only WV recipient of a 2013 EPA Grant. The \$200,000 award funds the remediation of the future Alex Rickli Memorial Soccer Complex. The site has a history of uses including auto-crushing and furniture manufacturing, which left contaminants on site including glass and metal solids as well as arsenic, mercury, cadmium, and petroleum. The project was a clear priority for the Board of Education, the County Commission and the public, which was evidenced by the creation of a project task force who completed the successful grant application. Remediation planning began in 2013 after the award of the grant, and clean-up activities are expected to be completed in 2014.



Brownfields on the Road: Outreach & Education

Educating city managers, regulators, citizens, investors, and other stakeholders is key to overcoming the barriers to brownfields redevelopment. The Brownfields Center makes a concerted effort to talk about the assistance, incentives, and opportunities for the redevelopment of West Virginia brownfields on the local, regional, and national stage.

In 2013 the Center's outreach included presentations to statewide associations, individual economic development organizations, and local project visioning workshops. The Center used the WV Brownfields website (www.wvbrownfields.org) to share grant opportunities, highlight project successes, and promote educational workshops and events.

In September, the Brownfields Assistance Centers welcomed 200 attendees to the 8th Annual West Virginia Brownfields Conference at The Waterfront Hotel in Morgantown. Morgantown Mayor, Jenny Selin kicked off the two-day event. Other keynote speakers included Patricia Hickman, WVDEP Interim Director of the Division of Land Restoration, and William P. Getty, President of the Claude W. Benedum Foundation. Presentations from 2013 WV Brownfields Conference sessions are available at www.wvbrownfields.org. The WV Brownfields Assistance Centers have begun planning for the 2014 Brownfields Conference, which will be held in Huntington on September 11 & 12, 2014.

The success of brownfields redevelopment in West Virginia is important to share outside the state to attract developers, businesses, and investors.



The NBAC hosts education and outreach events for stakeholders on a variety of topics, including specific projects, abandoned buildings, and grant workshops.



NBAC Director Patrick Kirby led a panel on foundation funding at Brownfields 2013, the national brownfields conference in Atlanta.

In 2013, the Center was an invited speaker to regional and national events such as the National Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference, as well as the Pennsylvania Brownfields Conference and the Virginia Brownfields Conference. NBAC staff also had the opportunity to highlight West Virginia's innovative approach to brownfields in front of a national audience at the National Brownfields Conference in Atlanta, GA, on May 15 - 17, 2013. Patrick Kirby moderated "Jump-Starting Redevelopment With Foundation Funding" and Luke Elser moderated "BAD Buildings: A Community Based Approach to Abandoned & Dilapidated Structures" while Carrie Staton presented on the WV Redevelopment Collaborative model during the "What Drives Successful Rural Brownfields Development?" session. In addition, NBAC hosted a West Virginia Redevelopment Booth during the Redevelopment Forum in an effort to market WV brownfield sites to national redevelopers.

Brownfields Inventory

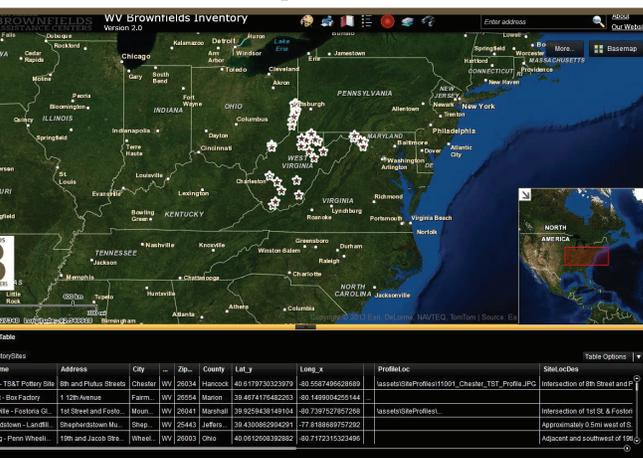
WV Brownfields Inventory Now Available Online

You've heard about, read about, and dreamed about the WV Brownfields Inventory becoming a resource to locate your next best Brownfields opportunity. The wait is over! The transition from our previous internal database to an interactive and public map is now complete.

The online, public resource for locating brownfields properties, the WV Brownfields Inventory 2.0, was released in May of 2013. The Brownfields Inventory is now a central, statewide resource for site developers, community stakeholders, and government officials to research available potential brownfields properties while the Brownfields Centers use it to catalog, track, and manage current and potential brownfields properties. These brownfields properties have been identified using local stakeholder input, environmental records, technical assistance requests, and project applications from the Brownfield Centers' multiple programs.

The inventory is not a comprehensive list of all brownfields properties in West Virginia, nor does the inventory represent 'certified' brownfields.

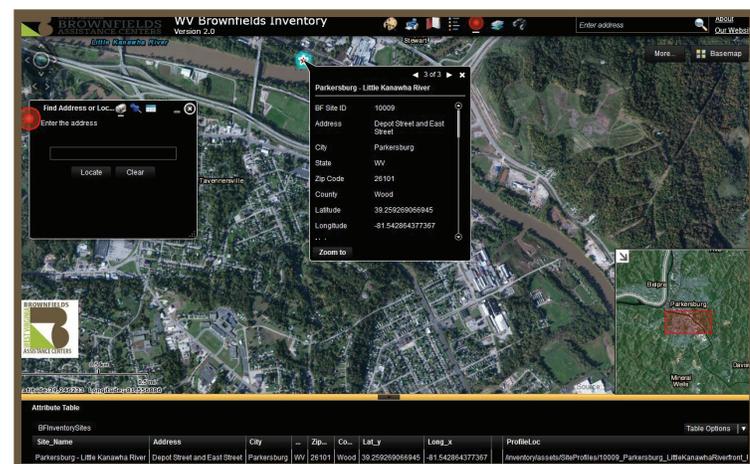
The inventory currently features 57 properties that have significant potential for development based on a variety of factors. Some of our listed inventory properties have high visibility to important locations within



Each property listing includes address, property size, physical location, assessment status, utility information, and photos.

their surrounding areas; some properties have significant support from stakeholders with previous redevelopment success; and some properties have minimal environmental contamination hurdles to overcome. No matter what positive potential aspect a property may have, we encourage stakeholders to engage with the NBAC to determine if a property can be listed on the inventory.

The online inventory map allows users to search, sort, select, and download property information; measure distances and areas; print maps with or without user-defined measurements; and zoom to statewide area or county level area.



The Inventory has multiple tools and settings to help users get the information they need.

The WV Brownfields Inventory 2.0 is available for all stakeholders and the general public to use as a tool to encourage progress and redevelopment

of brownfields properties across West Virginia. For any questions using the map, contact Derek Springston at Charles.Springston@mail.wvu.edu. A user handbook for the Inventory is scheduled for release in 2014.



Project Trends

While evaluating the FOCUS WV Program and developing the FOCUS Handbook, NBAC staff identified a number of trends on brownfield redevelopment projects. These trends will be used in future programs as the NBAC continues to provide technical assistance to communities.

- FOCUS projects receiving multiple years of funding (FOCUS Stage I and Stage II grants) and technical assistance have had a high level of success.
- Projects with a high level of community involvement have yielded more successful results. Sites with a social end-use have found a high level of community involvement critical to the success of their projects.
- Clean-up activities on brownfield sites funded by EPA Brownfield Clean-up Grants have been completed much faster than anticipated 3-year clean-up timelines.
- Varied leadership structures are common in brownfield projects – some are hierarchical in structure with a strong executive board while others have been more collaborative with decentralized boards and a community-led ‘Task Force approach.

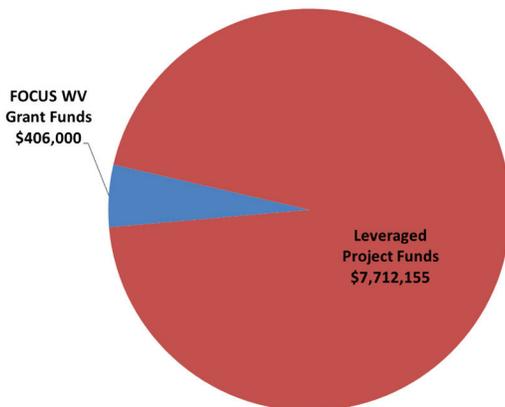


Funding from the FOCUS WV program helped to transform this abandoned train depot in Webster Springs into a welcome center.

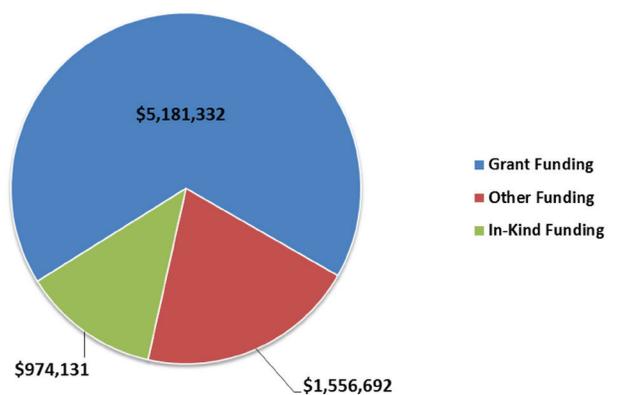
Leveraging Mini-Grants into Major Funding

Over the life of the FOCUS WV Program local projects leveraged the more than \$400,000 in mini-grants into \$7.7 million in additional funding, a 19:1 return on investment. These leveraged funds ranged in type from federal and state grants, private support, to in-kind donations. The FOCUS mini-grants helped provide project momentum that communities in turn leveraged into significant financial support, ultimately leading to redevelopment success.

FOCUS WV Leveraged Grant Funds



Leveraged Funding Breakdown



West Virginia Redevelopment Collaborative

The West Virginia Redevelopment Collaborative (WVRC) provides redevelopment services and expertise to West Virginia communities to capture the maximum economic, environmental, and social benefit from the remediation and adaptive re-use of brownfields and other strategically located properties. The WVRC assembles multi-disciplinary teams of academic faculty, public agency, and private sector experts to provide West Virginia communities with expertise and guidance through the redevelopment process.

Brownfields Redevelopment Process



WVRC Expands Reach to Main Street Communities



In 2013, the West Virginia Redevelopment Collaborative (WVRC) launched its latest expansion to implement the collaborative redevelopment model in Main Street communities across the state. The expansion came on the heels of a successful first year of funded projects.

WVRC Coordinator Carrie Staton and NBAC Director Patrick Kirby worked closely with Monica Miller and Nikki Williams at the WV Development Office to structure the program expansion to fit the needs of Main Street communities. Five Main Street communities participated in a redevelopment training in March of 2013 and competed for almost \$20,000 in funding. Main Street representatives shared details on their local downtown revitalization projects through several rounds of interactive and competitive activities.

Three projects received over \$5,000 each to implement a redevelopment plan and work with a team of collaborators. These Main Street organizations worked with the WVRC to host local Redevelopment Road Shows to engage redevelopment experts and community stakeholders. Brownfield Redevelopment Teams continue to work in these communities to maximize community participation and input on these priority redevelopment projects:

- In Fairmont, a team of experts and community stakeholders will develop a plan for the adaptive reuse of the historic Fairmont Fire Department.
- In Martinsburg, a team will transform a dilapidated foundry into a mixed use location for retail and restaurants.
- In Charleston, West Side Main Street will work with local and professional experts to turn an abandoned gas station into a productive economic asset that incorporates greenspace, offers a connection between two downtown districts, and encourages pedestrian traffic.



Main Street Martinsburg received one of three grants awarded to Main Street communities for work on downtown brownfields projects.

WVRC Game Time Showcases 2013 Project Teams



The Houston Kings received the 2013 Collaborative Team Award for their work on the Houston Company Store in Kimball, WV.

In 2013, the WVRC funded four Brownfields Redevelopment Teams (BRTs) on community brownfield projects to implement the Collaborative model. At the 2013 WV Brownfields Conference, these projects were celebrated and honored at WVRC Game Time, an event designed to help community stakeholders, improve their presentation skills, and increase their capacity to share project information and success with the broader public. At the end of the evening, a BRT working in Kimball on the Houston Company Store received the 2013 *Collaborative Team Award* in recognition of their quality project presentation.

WVRC Releases Collaborative Guide to Redevelopment

After two successful rounds of pilot projects, the WV Redevelopment Collaborative developed a new resource for West Virginia communities. The *Guide to Collaborative Redevelopment* describes the history and background of the WVRC, its model, and case studies from successful projects.

Using the experience of redevelopment veterans and input from communities facing redevelopment challenges, the WVRC developed a Redevelopment Process Guide and Redevelopment Checklist to illustrate the redevelopment process and the resources available at each step. The *Guide to Collaborative Redevelopment* includes these tools, as well as information on the program's success gathered through stakeholder surveys and interviews. Community project contacts reported overwhelmingly that they were satisfied with their

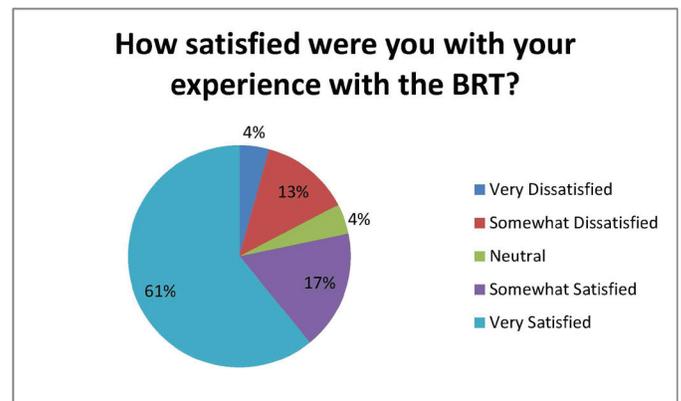
experience with their BRTs and with the products or services the Teams provided; 78% of participants responded that they were either somewhat (17%) or very satisfied (61%) with their experience with the team, and 87% were either somewhat (35%) or very (52%) satisfied with the products or services provided by their BRT members.

The WVRC worked in 2012 and 2013 with communities and teams of experts to implement the tools and processes outlined in the *Guide* on brownfield projects of all kinds. By describing these processes and providing examples of success, the WVRC plans to reach additional communities and to train them in this collaborative approach, in the hopes of simplifying the redevelopment process for all stakeholders. The WVRC is currently continuing the implementation of the model in Main Street communities.

The *Guide to Collaborative Redevelopment* is available on the WV Redevelopment Collaborative and WV Brownfields websites. Hard copies are available upon request to WVRC Coordinator Carrie Staton at carrie.staton@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-7071.

The project team has been a pleasure to work with, generously making time in their busy schedules to provide these services to our community.

--City of Richwood project champions



Brownfields, Abandoned, & Dilapidated (BAD) Buildings Program

NBAC Launches BAD Buildings Technical Assistance Program

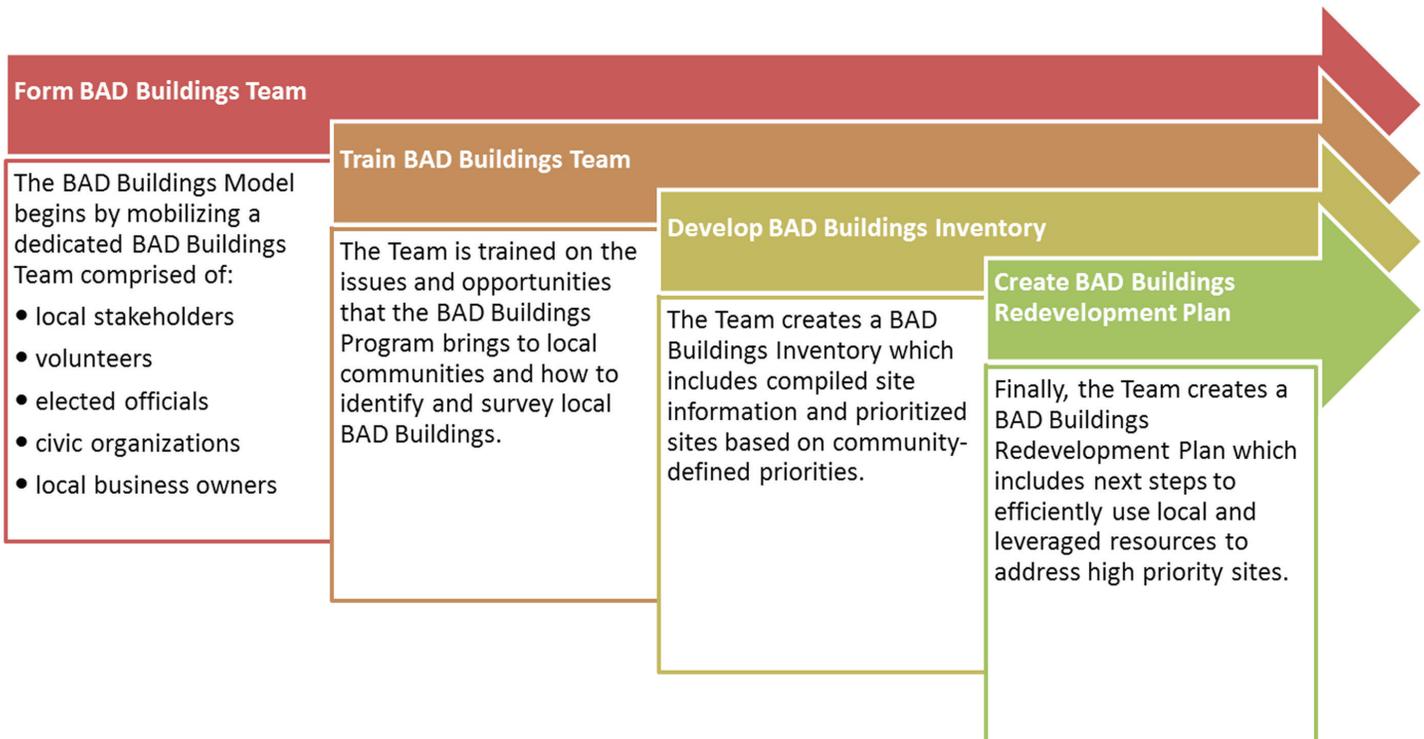
In 2013, the Northern WV Brownfields Assistance Center received a grant of \$99,700 from the Claude W. Benedum Foundation to implement the Brownfields, Abandoned, Dilapidated (BAD) Buildings Technical Assistance Program. The Program addresses barriers to identifying, prioritizing, and redeveloping BAD Buildings. The BAD Buildings Program provides a model to create abandoned buildings programs at the community level through collaboration between the municipal government, community volunteers, and local stakeholders. The Program also provides communities with technical assistance, programmatic support, network opportunities with state and federal resources, and redevelopment tools.



BAD Buildings have severe social and economic impacts in communities across the state.

Failure to address BAD Buildings in WV's communities imposes severe social and economic costs. BAD Buildings negatively impact communities through increased costs due to fire risks and crime, as well as the costs of reduced tax revenue from depressed property values. BAD Buildings also act as a drain on local infrastructure (such as road, sidewalk, and utility maintenance), and increase costs by requiring public services such as police and fire protection. In addition, these properties demoralize communities; pose environmental, health, and safety hazards; and provide an attractive nuisance for illegal activities, including drug use. BAD Buildings slow local economic development by reducing available commercial and industrial properties as well as making a community much less attractive to entrepreneurs and developers.

BAD Buildings Program Model



The NBAC released a Request For Proposals on September 30th to solicit applications to the program from communities across the state. The NBAC will provide technical assistance support to selected communities in 2014. Each community selected for participation in the BAD Buildings Program will receive technical assistance to accomplish the following tasks:

1. Form a BAD Buildings Team,
2. Train the team to identify and research potential BAD Building sites,
3. Develop a BAD Buildings Inventory of sites through assessment and prioritization,
4. Research property ownership,
5. Identify next steps for the redevelopment of high value sites, and
6. Create a BAD Buildings Redevelopment Plan.

Components of a BAD Buildings Redevelopment Plan

- A prioritized BAD Buildings Inventory
- Identified high priority sites and properties with significant economic redevelopment potential
- Next step recommendations for property owners, local revitalization groups, businesses, and the municipal government to address BAD Buildings
- Redevelopment options for high priority sites including demolition, deconstruction, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse

The BAD Buildings Model supports West Virginia communities that have limited local capacity and no abandoned/dilapidated buildings program. The model is based on the NBAC's effective approach to brownfield redevelopment throughout the state. While not all abandoned/dilapidated buildings are brownfields, all brownfields can be viewed as abandoned/dilapidated buildings; the same challenges and opportunities surrounding a brownfield project are commonly encountered when addressing BAD Buildings.

Upon completion of the BAD Buildings Program a community will have a BAD Buildings Redevelopment Plan which will guide the BAD Buildings Team, local government, volunteers, and business owners in next steps to begin redevelopment of prioritized high value properties as well as ongoing activities to address existing BAD Buildings and prevent future dilapidation.

Communities Discuss Abandoned Structures at BAD Buildings Summit

On June 12th, the NBAC and the WV Community Development Hub hosted the 2013 BAD Building Summit to provide strategies for tackling brownfields and abandoned and dilapidated structures. The statewide interest and frustration on this issue was demonstrated by the 90 registrants who participated in sessions on demolition/deconstruction, funding programs, engaging partners, and developing strong municipal codes.

Community input at the Summit informed the creation of NBAC's newest initiative, the BAD Buildings Program, as well as the creation of the Abandoned Properties Coalition (APC). The APC is an informal network of organizations and individuals working throughout West Virginia to address the challenges communities face as a result of abandoned and dilapidated properties.



Over 90 participants attended the BAD Buildings Summit in June to discuss issues surrounding abandoned structures.



Expanding the Impact of Brownfields Redevelopment

New Organization to Promote Economic Development in the State

The WV Land Stewardship Corporation (WVLS) is a collaborative effort among the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to provide West Virginia and its citizens a statewide, nonpartisan community and economic development non-profit corporation partnered with the WV Department of Environmental Protection. The WVLS was created by legislation in 2013 to promote productive reuse of underutilized commercial, industrial, and mining properties.

The NBAC received a grant in July of 2013 from the Benedum Foundation to perform Land Stewardship Corporation Support Services including providing substantial start-up assistance for the newly formed WV Land Stewardship Corporation. The WVLS provides NBAC with new, and much needed, tools to achieve the NBAC's mission of promoting the redevelopment of brownfields.

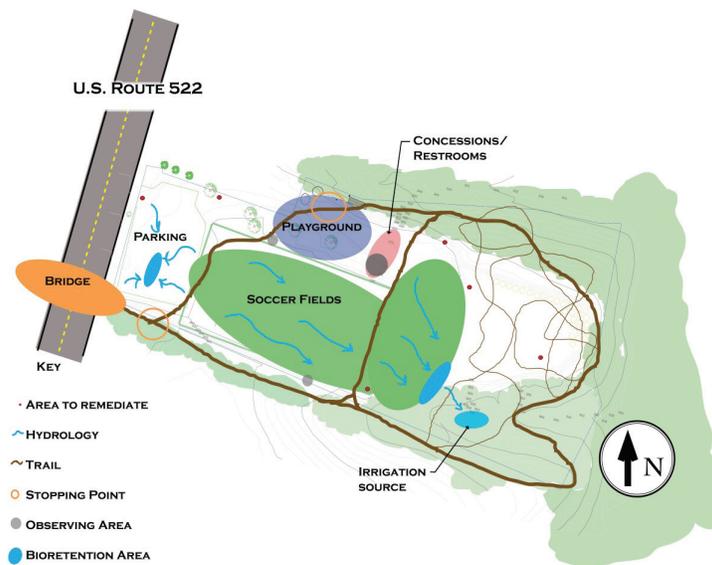
The Corporation will leverage redevelopable real estate for economic development and job creation and serve as a 'one stop shop' for environmental sites by housing three crucial programs:

- *Voluntary Land Stewardship Program* provides for the long-term safeguarding of the institutional and engineering controls (IECs) for remediated sites to ensure that the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment and to facilitate economic development and reuse opportunities.
- *State Land Bank Program* is a legal and financial mechanism to accept title to properties and transform idled and underutilized property back to productive uses.
- *State Site Certification Program* promotes economic growth through the identification of sites that are ready for construction within twelve months or less and that are certified as "project-ready" for business and economic development opportunities.

More information can be found at www.wvlsc.org.

NBAC Collaborates with Students and Professors on Brownfields Research

The NBAC's familiarity with so many different types of redevelopment projects across the state continues to serve as a window of opportunity for students and professors alike. In 2013, the NBAC connected students with real world projects to complete course work in multiple disciplines including public administration, landscape design, law, and public history. In total NBAC hosted 7 graduate students working on ten projects, and facilitated the work of 27 undergraduate students on a soon-to-be-successful redevelopment project.



Graduate Research Assistant Anna Withrow completed a design for the Morgan County Recreational Complex based on community input facilitated by the NBAC.

NBAC Partners

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection



The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection houses the Division of Land Restoration which manages the remediation of lands that have been environmentally contaminated. The NBAC works in conjunction with the DEP Office of Environmental Remediation which directs the State's Voluntary Remediation Program; this program aids property owners in identifying and assessing possible brownfield contamination on property.

The Center for Environmental Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS)

NBAC's counterpart is the West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center at Marshall University, which serves 22 counties in southern West Virginia. Both the NBAC and the BAC are supported by CEGAS located at Marshall University. CEGAS works to provide complete assistance to the state, and coordinates and shares information between the two Brownfield Assistance Centers.



West Virginia Development Office



The West Virginia Development Office is the state's chief economic and community development agency. This agency works to "improve the quality of life for all West Virginians by strengthening the state's communities and expanding its economy to create more and better jobs." The NBAC works with the Community Development Division of the West Virginia Development Office on their shared goal of strengthening civic engagement and the management of programs intended to improve the quality of life in communities throughout West Virginia, including brownfield redevelopment.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is a federal agency that uses an extensive range of programs to protect and promote human health and the environment. The NBAC and the EPA's regional offices work together to ensure the proper execution of the U.S. EPA's programs and that standards are being met at the state level.



Advisory Board

Andy Blake, City of Ranson
Tom Brand, Jr., West Virginia University Extension Service
Patrick Ford, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle
Katherine Garvey, WVU Land Use & Sustainable Development Law Clinic
Patricia Hickman, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Cam Huffman, The Area Roundtable
Mary Hunt, Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation
Dylan Lewis, Bowles Rice McDavid Graff & Love, LLP
David Lieving, West Virginia Development Office
LaReta Lowther, WesBanco Bank, Inc. - Community Development Department
Kent Spellman, West Virginia Community Development Hub



We provide

Land

Site Control
Perception
Demolition Issues

Brownfields

Environmental

Due Diligence
Site Assessments
Regulatory Barriers

Community

Visioning
Reuse Planning
Decision Enhancer Tool

Assistance

Funding

U.S. EPA Brownfields Grants
Other Federal/State
Opportunities
Private Investment

The Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center provides help to overcome redevelopment barriers on brownfield sites such as old gas stations, abandoned schools, and former glass or pottery factories. If you're not sure if a property is a brownfield, please call us and ask!

Contact Us

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The Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center is a program of the West Virginia Water Research Institute at West Virginia University.