

REVITALIZING AUSTIN

site by site



AQUIRING A PROPERTY?

BROWNFIELDS LAND REVITALIZATION



IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF TODAY:

Are you preparing to lease or purchase a property?

Hoping to create something beneficial for your community or organization?

Do you know what was located on the property before?

What about the property next to this one?

WHY ASK THESE QUESTIONS?

It's possible the property was a gas station, a dry cleaner or an old dump site. Any of these uses could have negative impact on the future use of the property. Prior site occupants may have left contaminants behind, which could make a big difference in how you use this property. Perhaps the land is not suitable for the purpose you intend or may impact your decision to purchase the property.





WHAT ARE BROWNFIELDS?

Brownfields are underutilized or abandoned properties where future redevelopment is complicated by the possible presence of environmental contaminants. A brownfield can be any property where previous owners have used or stored chemicals, and they may be in commercial and industrial areas or interspersed in residential areas.

BENEFITS OF AUSTIN'S BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

The City of Austin provides free environmental services to entities planning to redevelop or revitalize a property. As long as funding is available, the program may pay the entire cost of an assessment, cleanup planning and cleanup. The City works with our environmental consultants to provide these services, which could save applicants from \$5,000 to \$75,000 in environmental fees.

WHAT SERVICES DOES THE PROGRAM PROVIDE?

Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) include extensive historical research on the property and vicinity. Most lending institutions require a Phase I ESA before property acquisition. Many current owners have never investigated the historical uses of their property and potential environmental impacts are unknown.

Phase II ESAs include sampling onsite to determine if the property or building structures have been impacted by contaminants from previous property uses.

Applicants will receive reports with a summary of overall site conditions and a discussion of options for next steps. These reports will allow for informed decisions. From this point, it is possible to determine if the property is safe for the intended reuse and, if cleanup is required, what will be the best and most cost-effective remedy.

The Brownfields Revitalization Office can provide guidance about which of these steps may be necessary.



Brownfields can be redeveloped into community assets that support the health or character of a neighborhood.

ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORT?

Any nonprofit organization or non-federal governmental entity is eligible to apply for immediate assistance. Private developers' applications may be sponsored by an eligible entity if a planned redevelopment is of community benefit.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications are available online at: www.austintexas.gov/brownfields
You may also contact our office for an application.





Need assistance achieving your redevelopment goals?
Please contact us to find out how we can help you.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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AUSTIN BROWNFIELDS
REVITALIZATION OFFICE



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