



## Virginia First Cities 2017 Annual Meeting City of Hopewell May 12, 2017







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# **VFC Members**

- Charlottesville · Newport News
- Danville
- Hampton
- Hopewell
- Lynchburg
- Martinsville
- Portsmouth
  Richmond
  Staunton
  Winchester

Norfolk

## What is a Brownfield?



"Brownfield" means real property; the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant"

Traditional examples include factories, rail yards, landfills, dry cleaners but may include historical landfills, orchards, anthropogenic sources, and others



## How Brownfields Cleanups Help

How does brownfield redevelopment change communities?

- Assessment and possible clean up of impacted natural resources
- Increased employment opportunities
- Increased tax revenues
- Increase in surrounding property values
- Reduced green space development
- Community pride and improved community potential
- Revitalizing community core areas and downtown/main street areas

# Accessing Brownfields Property

- Apply for a Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund Grant
- Apply for a EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant
- Request a Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA)
- Additional resources: New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Contact DEQ for support



#### Virginia Brownfields Restoration and Economic Redevelopment Assistance Fund





General Assembly has provided \$2.25 million available July 1, 2017

Provides a "track record" for localities considering applying for EPA Grant and a leverage and/or match for other grants

Flexibility to complete either assessment or remediation if property is owned by the local government

- Created in 2002 with Virginia Brownfields Legislation
- First capitalized in 2011 with \$1M
- 44 Grants Assessment & Planning Grants awarded with typical award of \$50,000

#### (Ranging from \$7,000 to \$60,000)

- 3 Remediation Grants recently awarded. Re-opens Sept 2017
- Re-capitalized with \$2.25M and will allow for remediation grants up to \$500,000
- Property must be owned by local government to receive remediation grant
- Wide range of projects from typical Phase I & II ESA to removal actions for historic waste materials 7

## VFC Members w/ Grants



- Charlottesville
- Danville VBAF
- Hampton VBAF
- Hopewell EPA
- Lynchburg VBAF & EPA
- Martinsville VBAF & EPA
- Newport News \*\*\*
- Norfolk VBAF & EPA
- Portsmouth
- Richmond VBAF & EPA
- Staunton VBAF
- Winchester EPA



### **VBAF Grant Availability**

- Planning/Assessment Grants are open and available for application until funds are committed
- New funds available as of July 1, 2017
- Remediation Grants September 2017

• Minor revision of the guidelines this summer prior to opening for applications

## VIRGINIA TAX EXEMPTION



Statute is 20 years old!

Environmental restoration sites are a separate class of property.

Environmental restoration sites are properties that became contaminated by a release of hazardous substances

Any City, County or Town may pass an ordinance exempting such property from local tax

Property must be enrolled in the VRP Program.

A period no longer than 5 years

§ 58.1-3664. Environmental restoration sites <u>http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title58.1/chapter36/section58.1-3664/</u> www.dea.virginia.gov

### Town of Bedford Solar Project





#### Project Size

- 3 MW AC / 3.6MW DC
- 4.5 Million kWh
- 450 households

#### Benefits

- Job creation & training.
- Regional and state-level public relations
- Economic development: Attract Large Employers
- Locally generated energy with long term cost stability

### Jackson Park - Pulaski – Before





### Dunnivant Building



### Jackson Park - Before





Virginia Wood Products



### Town of Pulaski – After





## Town of Saltville



- Received \$50,000.00 in Brownfields grant funding from EPA and \$50,000 of additional funding from VBAF with EPA Grant providing the matching funds.
- Collaborative effort ongoing to help Saltville's ability to leverage funding from other sources.
  - Partners include the Town of Saltville, VEDP, DEQ, EPA, DHCD, Virginia Secretary of Commerce Office, and local citizens



## ASTSWMO Update



- The Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO)
   – Represents 50 States, 5 Territories & DC
- Brownfields Focus Group
  - 10 members, 1 from each EPA region
  - Meade Anderson, VA (Current Chair)

# Brownfields 2017 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES START HERE

#### PITTSBURGH, PA DECEMBER 5 – 7, 2017 with pre-conference programming on December 4th DAVID L. LAWRENCE CONVENTION CENTER

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCE! HTTP://BROWNFIELDS2017.ORG/



www.deq.virginia.gov

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