

# Brownfields 101

## WHAT IS A BROWNFIELD?

As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a Brownfield is

**“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.”**



Example of a BROWNFIELD Chemical Manufacturing Site

## How does this relate to **The City of Arlington?**

In 2010, the City of Arlington was awarded \$400,000 in grant money from the EPA to conduct communitywide Brownsfields site assessments over the next three years.

## How will Brownfield assessments benefit ARLINGTON?

The City recognizes that Brownfields redevelopment along with sustainable development is essential to the economic vitality of Arlington. As such, the grant funding will be used not only to conduct petroleum and hazardous substance assessments, but also to create a comprehensive site cleanup and redevelopment plan for identified problem areas.

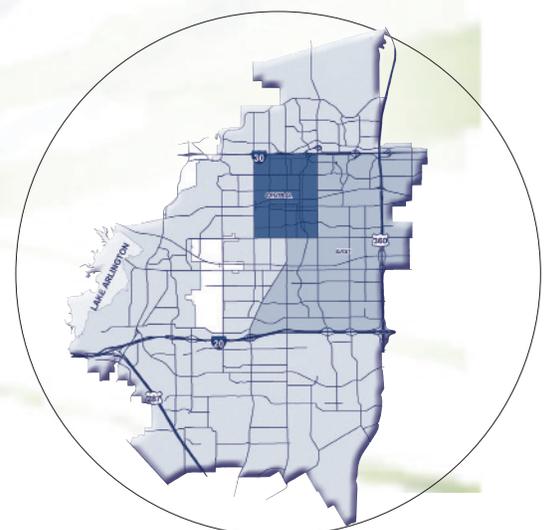
## What areas are TARGETED?

Although these assessments are citywide, specific regions of Arlington will serve as target areas. For example, in recent years, development has shifted away from the Central and East sectors of the City, which historically served as Arlington's commercial and industrial centers. This shift has resulted in many vacant and underutilized properties in the downtown area, which are excellent candidates for Brownfields sites.



Areas targeted for hazardous substances assessments: Central Arlington, East Arlington, Great Southwest Industrial District and South Arlington.

Areas targeted for petroleum assessments: Central Arlington and East Arlington



What does the  
**ASSESSMENT** CONSIST of?

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment is a preliminary examination of a site to determine the potential for contamination. It includes a review of present and historical land uses and records, as well as a visual inspection of the property for contamination or asbestos. Based on these findings, the City will decide what sites need a Phase II assessment, which includes the actual collection of samples for chemical analysis.

**UNDERSTANDING CHEMICAL USES**

Chemical	Everyday Use	Industry Use
Pesticides	Roach Powder Rat Poison	Farming or Chemical Co.
VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds)	Gasoline Dry Cleaner Moth Balls	Oil Refinery
SVOC's (Semivolatiles)	Soot	Incinerators
Metals	Batteries Thermometers	Jewelry or Plating Co.

Where do **BROWNFIELD CONTAMINANTS** come from?

Sometimes when factories or businesses leave a location, they may leave behind contaminants in pipes, barrels or underground oil tanks. These chemicals can leak (or leach) into the ground and contaminate the soil, groundwater and river water.



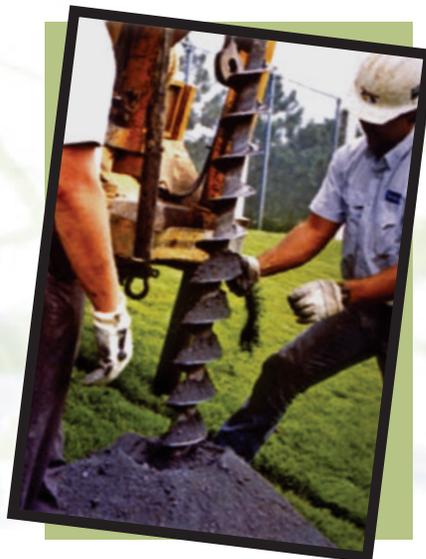
How can I find out more about **BROWNFIELDS** ?

For more information about Brownfields in general, go to the EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

To track the progress of Arlington's Brownfields project, check out our website at [www.arlingtontx.gov/planning/brownfields\\_grant\\_program.html](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/planning/brownfields_grant_program.html).

How are  
**SAMPLES COLLECTED?**

To do Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, scientists dig holes (or test wells) into the ground and take samples of the soil and water on the site. This helps property owners understand the nature and extent of contamination.



Or, to be involved in this project in Arlington, send an e-mail to [PlanningDevelopment@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:PlanningDevelopment@arlingtontx.gov) with your name and contact information.

