



Pennsylvania Brownfields Conference

OCTOBER 26-28, 2016 AT THE LANCASTER COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER, LANCASTER

Save the date! Plan to join us to learn about opportunities for transforming communities throughout the commonwealth. Conference attendees will experience the City of Lancaster's success in creating a vibrant destination where people want to live, work and visit. DEP will host the conference in partnership with the Engineers' Society of Western PA (ESWP). For information about Lancaster, visit the [Lancaster County Convention Center's website](#). For more details about the conference visit [ESWP's website](#).



Pennsylvania Downtown Center Conference

The Pennsylvania Downtown Center (PDC) will be hosting the 2016 Statewide Community Revitalization Conference June 12-15, 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel in Allentown. This year's theme is **Creating Economic Vitality**. Pennsylvania Downtown Center is the only statewide nonprofit dedicated solely to the revitalization of the commonwealth's core communities. Join other community and economic development practitioners and volunteers in Allentown as they explore the issues related to creating more entrepreneurial and equitable communities. More information on the PDC conference can be found [here](#).



Pennsylvania
Downtown
Center

Business in Our Sites Loans (BOS)

The Business in Our Sites Program (BOS) provides loans for the acquisition and development of key sites for future use by businesses, private developers, and others. The program is administered through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA). The program is intended to provide financial assistance to municipalities and others to plan and prepare sites for future use. Projects that require site development assistance where a business has already committed to locating at a specific site or where a private developer has already committed to locating a facility for a specific user may also seek financial assistance under other appropriate programs administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Information on guidelines and how to apply can be found [here](#).



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Vapor Intrusion Guidance Update

The draft Vapor Intrusion (VI) guidance was out for public comment from July 25, 2015 to Sept. 23, 2015. DEP received 97 comments from eight different organizations and is currently finalizing responses to those comments and making final revisions to the draft.

The final VI guidance is expected to be presented for approval to members of the CSSAB on July 13, 2016, and should be published by the end of the third quarter of 2016. There will be a 60-day implementation period with an effective date sometime in November.

Training for DEP staff and the public sector is planned for several dates in the third quarter of 2016; exact dates to be determined.



Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists

The Pennsylvania Land Recycling Program has partnered with the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists (PCPG) to present an Act 2 Overview course in June 2016 at a location to be determined in the central part of the state.

A one-day training course will be held on Risk Assessment on July 20, 2016, in Monroeville, and on Aug. 24, 2016, in Reading. This course will outline the role of risk assessment in the Act 2 program and provide details on the required steps of a risk assessment and recommendations to resolve common problems that are often seen in risk assessments.

After publication of the final VI guidance there will be three courses offered on vapor intrusion.

More information on these courses can be found [here](#).



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City of Easton's Simon Silk Mill

A 14-acre brownfield in the city of Easton is being redeveloped into a vibrant and unique residential mixed-use community arts center. DEP's Land Recycling Program staff provided technical and program oversight assistance to the Easton Redevelopment Authority that partnered with the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corp. and other county and municipal stakeholders to help redevelop and transform the former Simon Silk Mill into a community asset. The R&H Simon Silk Mill was originally built in 1883 along Bushkill Creek on North 13th Street and operated until the late 1930s. It was the largest producer of black silk ribbon in the world and employed 2,000 workers at the Easton plant.



The plans for the mill include a community arts center, 150 residential apartments, an artist live-work facility, and a mix of market-rate retail, commercial, office, and restaurant facilities. The refurbished area and apartments are intended to be ready for occupancy by spring of 2016. The project's success is crucial to the city's economic future and is intended to be a space for resident artists to form a community. Due to the building's industrial history as a silk mill, soil and groundwater was contaminated with metals and organic compounds. Throughout the project's redevelopment stages, environmental remediation was necessary. The first phase of the project will include six small businesses and a brewery that will create 20 jobs.

PA Brownfield Success Stories

Communities across Pennsylvania have a story to tell. Whether it's the successful cleanup of a town's former industrial complex or the remediation of the corner gas station, these brownfields success stories illustrate the improved quality of life for people living and working in Pennsylvania. These videos feature successful brownfield reclamation projects from across Pennsylvania. Brownfields are properties that are in need of expansion, redevelopment or reuse, but because of actual or anticipated hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, that work is made more challenging. Pennsylvania's approach to brownfields redevelopment has proven to be a national model for transforming abandoned, idle properties into places of environmental protection and economic opportunity.

All of DEP's brownfields videos are located on the YouTube link which can be found [here](#):



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www.dep.pa.gov/brownfields