

What is a Brownfield?

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Brownfields in Indian Country:



Properties (land or structure) which sit unused or vacant due to the potential of pollution or contamination at the site.



Examples of Brownfields in Indian Country

Abandoned UST's/AST's



Open Dumps





Tire Piles





Junk Cars





**Natural
Disasters:**

**Flooding,
Forest Fires**





Burned homes





Old Farms or Ranches

Pesticides

Herbicides

Rodenticides

Tanks (USTs)

Livestock Dips

Post Dips

Equipment Maintenance
Waste





Abandoned Buildings





Mine sites/ Mine-scarred lands





Meth Labs



How it works...

- #1- Properties added to CNO Brownfields Inventory.
 - Site Prioritization
 - Public website of all properties on list
- #2- Phase I and/or Phase 2's; Start public notification and discussions about redevelopment
 - Site worksheets
- #3: Community Visioning
 - determine cleanup needs and costs.
 - Reuse level and remedial use
- #4- EPA Site Eligibility criteria and pursue grants.
- #5- Funding your Brownfield!
 - Find funding for cleanups
 - Federal and State Grants



Benefits of Brownfields :

- Accommodates growth while using existing infrastructure!
- Improves public health!
- Removes blight in areas.
- Historic preservation of sites and can turn environmental liabilities into assets!
- Some historic spaces have natural lighting and ventilation that can reduce the operation costs later for the business that redevelops a Brownfield.
- Every \$1 the federal government spent, an estimated \$17.87 was generated.
- Employment increased 55% since 1998 on remediated properties.



Usual Contaminants:

- Mold, Lead-Based Paint, Asbestos (ACM, ACBM), Poly Chlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and Mercury.
- Petroleum and LUST's
- BF Contain Other Problems:
- DISEASE VECTORS (CRITTERS)
- DRUG LABS/DRUG USE
- TRESPASSERS
- ATTRACTIVE NUISANCES
- PARTY ANIMALS
- CULTS
- FIRES
- VANDALISM



“Brownfields Law”

- The “Law” -CERCLA/SBLRBRA
- Added: Section 128(a) ASSISTANCE TO STATES (1) IN GENERAL.—
- (A)—The Administrator may award a grant to a State or Indian tribe that:
 - (i) has a response program that includes each of the elements, or is taking reasonable steps to include each of the elements.
- This created the: “Tribal Response Program” (TRP).
- Section 128(a)(1)(A)(i) lists the four elements:
 - (1) Timely survey and inventory of brownfield sites.
 - (2) Oversight and enforcement authorities or other mechanisms, and resources, that are adequate to ensure that a response action will protect human health and the environment.



Brownfields Law”

- •(3) Mechanisms and resources to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation.
 - •(4) Mechanisms for approval of a cleanup plan, and a requirement for verification by and certification or similar documentation from the State, an Indian tribe, or a licensed site professional to the person conducting a response action indicating that the response is complete.
- ALSO:
 - •Section 128(b)(1)(C) requires a “PUBLIC RECORD” - the Public Record
 - CNO has a 128(a) TRP Grant to find and assess BF sites and maintain a public record.



Impacts of 128(a) TRP:

- Empowered Tribes to identify, inventory, assess and cleanup contaminated sites in Indian country not other wise being addressed.
- A big step forward in exercising tribal sovereignty and self implementation of tribal laws and codes to address such problems and prevent their reoccurrence.
- Enabled the Tribes to apply for grant funds to address some sites or take action themselves on other sites.





Guthrie Green After Renewal



Brownfield Site Before Renewal

Example of Brownfields Renewal

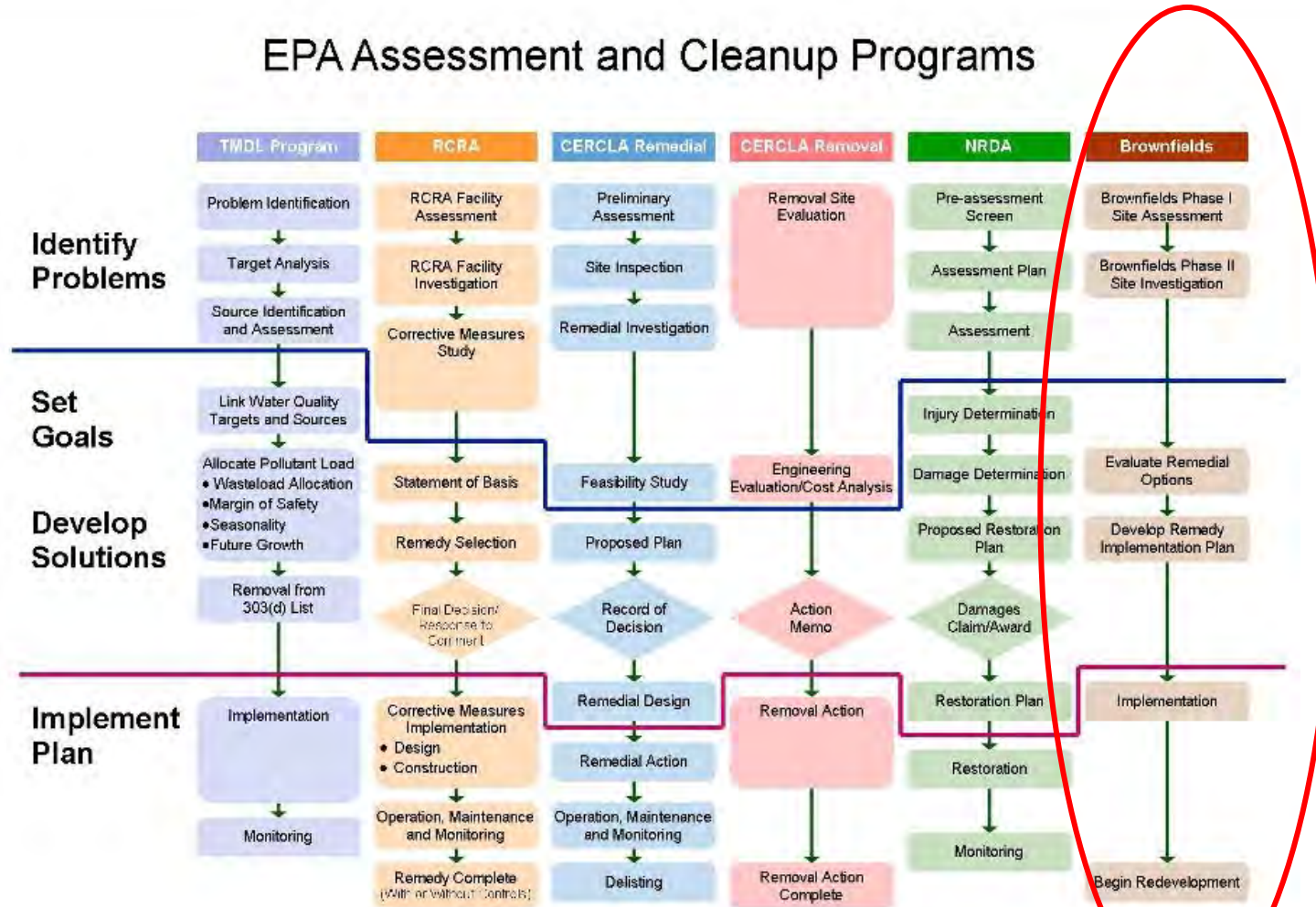
Guthrie Green in Tulsa, OK:

- **Bottom Picture:** Before, it was an abandoned shipping yard
- **Top Picture:** Now it is used to host public gatherings, outdoors concerts, etc.



Next Steps:

EPA Assessment and Cleanup Programs



BEFORE

**Questions?
Please contact:
Choctaw Nation
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580-924-8280 x 4631**

