

Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Brownfields Newsletter

Summer 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration is open for the WV Brownfields Conference. The conference will take place at the Erickson Alumni Center in Morgantown, WV on September 12-14.

Registration is open for the National Brownfields Training Conference. The conference will take place at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA on December 5-7.



Groundbreaking at the Pietro Fiorentini Site (Weirton, WV)

FUNDING FOR BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT AND CLEANUP GRANTS ANNOUNCED.

On May 31, 2017 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) announced they selected 172 communities across the country that will receive 279 grants totaling 56.8 million. These funds are used to aid under-served and economically disadvantaged communities through the assessment and cleanup of abandoned industrial and commercial properties. According to the U.S. EPA, studies have shown that residential property values near brownfields sites that are cleaned up increased between 5 and 15.2 percent and can increase property values within one-mile radius of that site. The Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning and Development Council was selected and awarded two grants \$395,000 for hazardous substances and \$205,000 for petroleum totaling \$600,000. This is the second year that BHI has been awarded the brownfields assessment and cleanup grant. The hazardous substance grant will be used to conduct ten Phase I and seven Phase II environmental site assessments, and create cleanup plans for five sites. The petroleum grant will be used to conduct seven Phase I and four Phase II environmental site assessments, and create cleanup for plans for three sites.

CITY OF WEIRTON'S THREE SPRINGS BUSINESS PARK.

Groundbreaking took place at the Three Springs Business Park on Friday June 09, 2017 for Pietro Fiorentini an Italian based manufacture. The company manufactures pressure regulators and valves, as well as pressure reducing and metering systems for use in the oil and gas industry. Construction on an 110,000 sq. ft. building that will be the new home of Pietro Fiorentini will start in July with a completion date set for April 2018. They will initially employ 41 people and hope to have 150 employed in the next 3 years.

Task Force Meeting Update

The Brownfields Task Force met June 14, 2017 at the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission (BHJMPC) office and went over the Brownfields assessment and cleanup grant and the site inventory they will be using with the award. The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2017 at 12:00 PM at the BHJMPC office.