ATSDR Is Transforming Communities Across the Nation

Brownfields and land reuse sites are areas that may be contaminated with chemicals from past or current uses. The ATSDR Land Reuse Health Program works with cities, towns, and neighborhoods to transform these sites into healthy community spaces, such as schools, parks, and gardens, protecting residents from harmful substances and improving public health.

Vacant lots and houses → Old gas stations → Abandoned factories → Polluted waterfronts → New buildings → Community gardens → Parks and trails for walking and biking → Community health benefits

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Brownfields Can Harm Your Health

Environmental damage → Lack of options for physical activity → Limited access to healthy foods → Higher risk of disease (like cancer and lung disease) and earlier death

We help communities get funding → ATSDR awards grants for improving community health in areas with brownfields and land reuse sites.

Success Stories

ATSDR Is Helping Communities Rebuild

Our most important role is working directly with community members. We answer questions, provide resources, and stay involved as long as we’re needed.

We create tools and resources → These materials help people assess the effects of brownfields and land reuse sites, and they allow communities to track their successes during and after redevelopment.

We’ve also assisted on over 400 other sites — consulting with communities about possible exposures and contamination from brownfields.

Want to make your community healthier and safer by renewing and redeveloping it? To learn more about the Land Reuse Health Program, visit: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields or email us at atsdr.landreuse@cdc.gov

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
National Land Reuse Health Program

Redeveloping Brownfield and Land Reuse Sites to Benefit Communities

Photo © Lloyd DeGrane, with permission

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