



## PHOENIX RESIDENTS RECEIVING ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

**T**wenty residents are participating in a 4-month job training program that will provide them with environmental certifications and college credit to obtain entry-level jobs in the environmental field. The program includes students with diverse backgrounds from recent high school graduates to experienced workers seeking a career change, all with a strong desire to gain a career and make a difference. The students completed a rigorous application process and have committed to attending class three evenings per week and occasional Saturdays.



*Students learning about remediation systems*

The curriculum was designed with the input of environmental consultants and contractors and based on the need for water/wastewater workers. Instructors for the program are from the city, ADEQ, and several local environmental firms. A mentoring program staffed with volunteers from consulting is part of the program. Students will gain knowledge in Phase I/II Environmental Site Assessments, soil and groundwater sampling, remediation technologies, GPS, GIS, and QA/QC procedures.

Hands-on field training is part of the students training and has included three field trips to conduct a Phase I ESA, surface soil sampling, depth soil sampling, and groundwater sampling. Students and volunteer instructors and contractors spent a hot, but productive Saturday in September learning how to collect soil samples using a hollow-stem auger drill and Geoprobe™, in addition to learning how to collect samples from a groundwater monitoring well.

Students will also receive a 40-hour OSHA HAZWOPER certification, asbestos abatement worker certification and lead abatement worker certification. Gateway Community College is teaching a "Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance" course. Upon completion of this course students will be eligible to test for a Grade I Water Distribution Systems Operator Certificate, which enables them to gain employment with local government.

The goal of the program is to obtain employment for graduates. The City has established a partnership with potential employers and will continue to seek employers for participation in the December 13 Job Fair at the Phoenix Convention Center.



*Students collecting surface soil samples*

## ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING (cont.)

The program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Phoenix municipal funds. For information on the program and on participating in the Job Fair, please contact Rosanne Sanchez at 602-256-3452 or via e-mail at [rosanne.sanchez@phoenix.gov](mailto:rosanne.sanchez@phoenix.gov).

The city of Phoenix wishes to express a special thanks to the following partners who have brought their expertise and enthusiasm to this program:

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Sandra Villa, Friendly House  
Tod Whitwer, Allwyn Environmental  
Lisa C. Young M.Ed., GateWay Community College

## PHOENIX BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM NEWS

### West Phoenix Grand Avenue Corridor Study

Identifying potential brownfield sites in Phoenix has always been a challenge for the city's program. It can be costly, time consuming and difficult to conduct research and gain participation from property owners.

Nevertheless, the program contracted with a local consulting firm to assist the city with this task. The 12-square mile study area is bounded by 19th Avenue on the east; Van Buren on the South; 43d Avenue on the west; and Camelback Road on the north. Several "potential redevelopment opportunities" were identified within the area. The city will continue to move forward with the next phase of the study, which is

to contact property owners for further information and their interest in participating in the program.

### Applications Under Review for Award of 2007/2008 Grant Funds

Grant applications were due September 20<sup>th</sup> for more than \$500,000 that is available to eligible developers, businesses, and nonprofits for brownfield redevelopment projects. Award of funds is anticipated within the next 90 days. The funds can be used for public infrastructure improvements and development fees to assist in offsetting the additional costs incurred due to environmental contamination. Should any funds remain, a second round grant announcements will be made in early 2008.

# INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT NEWS IN PHOENIX

## Environmental Assessment Declaration

Did you know that in the City of Phoenix, private developers must complete an "Environmental Assessment Declaration for Projects Constructed by Private Developers" Form? The form asks developers to disclose whether site characterization/assessment was performed and whether there are recognized environmental conditions identified. The form can be found at [phoenix.gov/DEVPRO/envassess.pdf](http://phoenix.gov/DEVPRO/envassess.pdf)

## Vapor Intrusion Information

Vapor intrusion is currently being assessed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The presence of elevated levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) inside buildings can create human health risks. Vapor intrusion occurs when VOC vapors from underlying contaminated soil, and/or groundwater enters indoor air. Vapors can accumulate in basements, utility corridors, or underneath slabs, and enter buildings through cracks, electrical conduits, elevator shafts, and other openings. However, vapor intrusion can be mitigated by relatively simple and inexpensive

modifications to building design and operation. Developers of new or existing buildings can perform environmental investigations to determine if soil or groundwater contamination is present and how it might affect development. If the actual or highly probable presence of VOCs is identified underneath or within a short distance of the building, the developer may wish to conduct further studies to determine the risk of vapors that may emanate from contaminated soil or groundwater and accumulate inside the building.

EPA guidance documents are a good source of information about risk mitigation alternatives, even if the contaminant source will remain after construction. Options include subslab depressurization, enhanced ventilation, membrane vapor barriers, passive gas collection pipes that vent outside the building, or, in extreme cases, active gas venting systems.

If you have questions, contact Donn Stoltzfus, Environmental Program Specialist, at 602-256-5669.

# ARIZONA CHAPTER NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS ASSOCIATION

The steadfast and dedicated members of the Executive Committee of the Arizona Chapter are pleased to announce the Chapter's first major event on November 28, 2007. The association is open to professionals who may directly or indirectly be involved in the redevelopment of contaminated property.

Mayor Jim Cavanaugh of Goodyear is President of the statewide chapter. Members of the Executive Committee are diverse and represent the wide spectrum of disciplines involved in brownfields cleanup and redevelopment. The chapter is organized to encourage the responsible and sustainable development of brownfields.

Join the fun and learn more about this important issue while enjoying a cruise on Tempe Town Lake, followed by a cocktail networking reception at the beautiful arts center, which is a former brownfield site.

## Brownfields Tour of the Arts

November 28, 2007

5:00 - 9:00 pm

(Boat departs @ 6:00 pm)

Tempe Center for the Performing Arts

Mayor Cavanaugh will emcee the reception with featured guest speakers. For more information or to RSVP contact Stephanie Schultz at [StephanieS@brownfieldassociation.org](mailto:StephanieS@brownfieldassociation.org).

## WHAT IS THE NBA?

The National Brownfield Associations are made up of professionals from the USA and Canada that make their livelihood from the responsible redevelopment of brownfields. The NBA provides a transaction-focused network, where members can meet industry leaders and exchange ideas, information and experience related to the sustainable redevelopment of brownfields.

# BROWNFIELDS NEWS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

**Tempe Marketplace Grand Opening** took place September 28. Tempe Marketplace located in the City of Tempe is the result of more than a decade of creative thinking and partnerships between national and local government agencies and the private sector. While shoppers enjoy the new Tempe Marketplace, few may realize that for more than 40 years, the ground it sits on was previously home to three unregulated landfills, 11,000 cubic yards of lead contaminated soil, 130 septic tanks and leach pits, 260,000 tons of buried construction and household debris, 42 drums of hazardous waste, methane gas and PCB waste.

Once a dangerous place, the land has become an economic generator, creating 4,800 jobs, \$110 million in annual wages and \$24.5 million in sales tax revenue during the first 10 years. The remediation effort may be the largest single brownfield cleanup in Arizona history.

**The City of Goodyear** is looking spend the \$1 million it received as part of a settlement with the EPA regarding cleanup of the Unidynamics/Crane Co. superfund site settlement. The funds are to be spent on brownfields projects in Goodyear within the next three years. The city Goodyear will look to make

partnerships with private companies and apply for grants to supplement the \$1 million. A Goodyear citizens' committee on brownfields held its inaugural meeting in September and in the coming months will choose the sites to be redeveloped. Goodyear hopes to create a comprehensive list of brownfields with the assistance of an engineering firm.

## EVENTS

Arizona Chapter, National Brownfield Associations  
Brownfields Tour of the Arts  
November 28, 2007  
[StephanieS@brownfieldassociation.org](mailto:StephanieS@brownfieldassociation.org)

NBA Brownfields 2007  
"The Big Deal"  
Oct. 16-17, 2007  
Chicago, IL  
[www.brownfieldassociation.org](http://www.brownfieldassociation.org)

CCLR Brownfields 101 Workshop  
November 15, 2001  
Phoenix, AZ  
[www.cclr.org](http://www.cclr.org)

Brownfields 2008  
"Roadmap to Revitalization"  
May 5-7, 2007  
Detroit, MI  
[www.brownfields2008.org](http://www.brownfields2008.org)

Phoenix Brownfields University 2008  
September 2008  
Phoenix, AZ

*For more information or a copy of this publication in an alternate format, contact Rosanne Sanchez at 602-256-3452 Voice / 602-534-5500 TTY / [rosanne.sanchez@phoenix.gov](mailto:rosanne.sanchez@phoenix.gov)  
Phoenix Brownfields Land Recycling Program Web site: [phoenix.gov/ENVPGM/brownfld.html](http://phoenix.gov/ENVPGM/brownfld.html)*