



Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Office of Waste Management (OWM)



WASTE MATTERS!

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UST RULES REVISION

By: Andy Hook and Joe Cunningham

The Department of Environmental Management Office of Waste Management Underground Storage Tank Division promulgated a revision to their regulations, [The Rules and Regulations for Underground Storage Facilities Used for Regulated Substances and Hazardous Materials](#) (UST Regulations), 250-RICR-140-25-1, which went into effect on November 20th, 2018. These regulations were updated to comply with 2015 changes to EPA Regulations as well as the newly created Rhode Island Code of Regulations. Notable changes include:

- Routine liquid tightness testing of all spill containment basins, tank top sumps, and under-dispenser containment is now required
- Single walled heating oil tanks are now required to be tightness tested (previously exempt)
- Increase in UST registration fees
- Combining stand-alone LUST Fund Regulations with UST regulations

These changes are aimed at addressing common sources of failure and points of release in UST systems. In many cases, RIDEM's requirements are more stringent than the minimum federal requirements, which will translate into fewer releases and cleaner air, water, and land for everyone.

EVENTS



2019 Guidelines for USEPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grants, Assessment Grants, and Cleanup Grants Workshop will be held on Wednesday, December 12th, 2018 from 8:30am - 12pm at DEM Headquarters.

235 Promenade St
Room 280 - C1 and C2
Providence, RI 02908

The session is presented by USEPA and open to those interested in applying for federal brownfields grant funding. Click [here](#) to register for this workshop.



Newsletter prepared by Filomena DaSilva

Another Rhode Island Solar Project Headed Our Way!

By: Filomena DaSilva

"Cleaning up contaminated brownfields sites is one of the smartest investments government can make", said Governor Gina Raimondo recently. The Gravelly Hill Road solar project in South Kingstown is one of those sites. A former dumping ground for waste, this site is said to have been vacant since the 1970's. The project is being supported largely through a \$306,000 Brownfields Bond Program grant from the DEM. The Brownfields Bond Program has funded almost \$15 Million at 45 different projects since 2015. The Office of Waste Management's Deputy Administrator, Matthew DeStefano said, "This project continues Rhode Island's efforts to build our green economy, produce jobs, lessen our dependence on fossil fuels and enhance our leadership in developing renewable energy." The 3,200-kilowatt solar farm to be, is projected to provide enough clean energy to power 610 homes and save taxpayers \$290,000 annually according to State officials. The savings will be realized as credits to area municipalities as the solar farm produces en-



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ergy. Kearsarge Energy, who finished a similar project at the Rose Hill Landfill last year, will also complete this contract.





DEM “Ramps Up” Clean-up with Recent Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) Awards Using EPA Funding

By: Rachel Simpson

The Office of Waste Management’s Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program moves forward with its 12 projects in 6 towns and cities throughout Rhode Island since June. Ten of the projects involve assessing hazardous substances and two involve use of funds specifically earmarked for petroleum contamination only. To date, over \$100,000 of EPA funding has been allocated to these projects to conduct assessment work. It is anticipated that the remaining funding will be used to conduct further investigative work and develop remedies at most of these ongoing sites.

The goal of each project is to determine the actual presence and extent of contamination at every one of the properties. The assessment work provides support for redevelopment and reuse of the abandoned under-utilized properties owned by municipalities or non-profit organizations.

The former Frasch’s Bakery in Newport and the Community Baptist Church in Burrillville, the two petroleum-only projects, will have work performed to determine the ongoing source(s) of petroleum at these properties. OWM was pleased with EPA’s support for the projects, and their positive response to our efforts to expedite approvals so the work could move forward.

\$47 Million Green Economy Bond Passes on November Ballot

By: Filomena DaSilva

During the recent November elections in Rhode Island, voters passed the \$47 Million Green Economy and Clean Water Bond. This bond included an additional \$4 Million in brownfields money to be used to clean up former industrial areas that may be contaminated by hazardous waste or other environmental pollutants. The bond plans to provide up to eighty percent matching grants to public, private and/or non-profit entities to clean up designated brownfield sites.

2019 Brownfields Grant Awardees

- ◆ Gravelly Hill Road Solar Array, South Kingstown - \$56,000 for site preparation/assessment and \$250,000 for remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Gotham Greens Providence LLC, Providence - \$250,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Tallman/Shri, Pawtucket - \$250,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Fountain Street Apartments, Providence - \$250,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ The former Cranston Police Station, Cranston - \$400,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Blackstone Pawtucket LLC, Pawtucket - \$198,317 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Georgiaville Village Green, Smithfield - \$150,000 redevelopment
- ◆ Coffey’s Texaco, Newport - \$250,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Newport Grand: Phase I, Newport - \$250,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ The Steel Yard, Providence - \$150,000 remediation/redevelopment
- ◆ Pilgrim Screw, Providence - \$100,000 site preparation and remediation
- ◆ What Cheer Flower Farm, Providence - \$50,000 site preparation



BLOCK ISLAND LANDFILL

By: Mark Dennen

Work is progressing nicely at the Block Island Landfill, a former dumpsite that had been collapsing into the sea. The project involved cutting back and reinforcing the landfill slopes as part of a landfill closure. Photos, courtesy of Kasie McKenzie, a Sanitary Engineer at OWM, were taken last week during an inspection. Beach grass will be planted in the Spring and work should be completed in May of next year, just before the summer rush into the island.



Happy
Holidays!



from all of us at

The Office of
Waste
Management



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