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# Utah Department of Environmental Quality Brownfields Community Assistance

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**Utilizing tools and resources available through the Department of Environmental Quality this former Brownfield site [1] was transformed into a successful live/work space [2].**

Environmental contamination is often an impediment to development or perhaps a higher or more sustained use of property. As such, many contaminated properties or potentially contaminated properties, known as Brownfields, sit idled or underutilized due to the perceived or real threat of environmental contamination. This can limit economic development within communities. Brownfields include abandoned gas stations, former maintenance garages, old industrial properties and mine scarred lands. Brownfields are present in both rural and large communities.

Tools and resources are available to address Brownfields through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

These tools and resources include: the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), Targeted and Petroleum Brownfields Assessments, Enforceable Written Assurances (EWA) and Assessment, Cleanup and the Revolving Loan Fund (ARC) Grants.

One example of a successful cleanup utilizing these tools is the former Utah Barrel and Scrap site located in Downtown Salt Lake City. Artspace, a Non-Profit Organization in Utah that creates affordable living and work space for artists and non-profit organizations, purchased the former Utah Barrel and Scrap site in November 2007. Artspace received an Enforceable Written Assurance from the DEQ and applied to the Voluntary Cleanup Program in late 2007.

As part of the cleanup, Artspace removed contaminated soil, treated the groundwater and entered into an environmental covenant. A VCP Certificate of Completion was subsequently issued to Artspace in May 2009 for the successful cleanup of the Utah Barrel and Scrap site. Artspace's efforts returned the site to a state of beneficial reuse. Artspace opened its doors for a mixed commercial and residential development in September 2010. The first floor of the building is used for artist studios and art galleries, while the space above the ground floor is used for residential purposes.

For further information on Brownfields, ARC Grant funding or any of the tools noted in this summary, please contact Bill Rees at DEQ, (801) 536-4167 or brees@utah.gov. Also, please see the following link for further information on Brownfields at:

- [www.superfund.utah.gov/vcpbrownfields.htm](http://www.superfund.utah.gov/vcpbrownfields.htm)

