

May 7, 2020

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council  
For Western Maryland

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### Dates to Remember

#### TCCWMD Council Meeting

Wednesday, June 17  
Garrett County

### COVID-19 Quick Links

[Allegany County Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Garrett County Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Washington County Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Maryland Business Express](#)

[Small Business Administration](#)

[USDA COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#)



### EPA to Perform Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBAs)

EPA Region III (Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and D.C.) has recently received funds to perform Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBAs), and they are currently seeking candidates.

TBAs are Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments performed by EPA and their contractors for free. The application process is short (1 page) and straightforward.

Eligibility requirements and application instructions can be found by following [this link](#).

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF

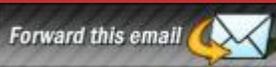
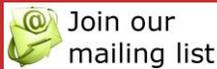


PLANNING

### Brownfield Redevelopment Assistance Program

The Maryland Department of Planning in collaboration with the Maryland Department of the Environment has established the program. The goal is to connect economic development partners to federal and state resources to identify, clean up and redevelop brownfields in your communities.

Maryland has brownfields in every county. They include buildings and sites previously used for dry cleaners, auto body repair, gas stations, manufacturing and industrial uses and buildings with asbestos or lead-based paint issues. Obtaining funding for assessments and cleanup is key to local efforts to transform brownfields



### Notice of Funding Availability

#### USDA Offers Temporary Payment Deferrals for the Community Facilities Direct Loan Program

The USDA program will temporarily allow borrowers with direct loans to request payment deferrals to assist those that are experiencing temporary cash flow issues due to the pandemic.

On a case-by-case basis, USDA will provide the option of principal and interest payment deferrals for up to one year due to hardship. The borrower must request any deferments from the Agency in writing.

For additional information, visit the notice by following [this link](#).

**Effective through September 30, 2020.**

into community assets; whether for new businesses, government facilities, parks or tourism destinations.

Planning is available to counties and municipalities to assist in the development of grant proposals, answer technical and financial assistance questions, and conduct analyses to enable you to identify and achieve your brownfield redevelopment goals.

Planning offers the following types of free assistance:

- Brownfields Inventory (available upon request) and Brownfield Site Prioritization
- Liaison with MDE, the Technical Assistance for Brownfields (TAB) program for Region III (New Jersey Institute of Technology TAB), and EPA Region III
- Coordinate assistance among federal, State, and non-governmental organizations
- Identify and assist with developing grant applications; if awarded, assist with managing grant applications
  - Training
- Recommend comprehensive plan language or zoning/subdivision code modifications to facilitate brownfield redevelopment

For more information or questions, contact Sylvia Mosser at [sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov](mailto:sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov) or (410) 767-4487.

EPA will also host a free Brownfields Workshop in Hagerstown, Maryland on Thursday, June 11, 2020.



U.S. Small Business Administration

### BEWARE of Scams and Fraud Schemes

The Office of Inspector General recognizes that we are facing unprecedented times and is alerting the public about potential fraud schemes related to economic stimulus programs offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration in response to the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the largest financial assistance bill to date, includes provisions to help small businesses. Fraudsters have already begun targeting small business owners during these economically difficult times. Be on the lookout for grant fraud, loan fraud, and phishing.

Follow [this link](#) for complete details.