

# U.S. EPA Area-Wide Brownfields Plan - Ohio River Communities

Press Release #1 - October 5, 2011

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The Borough of Monaca along with its community partners: the City of Aliquippa; the Borough of Coraopolis; the Borough of Midland; and the Ohio River Trail Council (ORTC) have joined together to undertake a grass-roots effort to re-think the future of our communities as a way to overcome the loss of a major portion of our manufacturing/industrial base and the post-industrial brownfields legacy that remains from that loss. The Borough of Monaca received a \$150,000 federal grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Monaca officials applied for the grant, which will also be used by Midland, Aliquippa and Coraopolis to target so-called "brownfield" areas along the Ohio River. This effort is partly an outcome of the ORTC's initiative to provide increased access to and along the river corridor and the revitalization of the numerous blighted parcels, many of which are perceived brownfields.

The EPA Area-Wide Brownfields Plan is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2012, is intended to be a strategic roadmap for both short term and long term revitalization of the identified study areas system.

Public involvement opportunities are scheduled throughout the project timeline. The first such opportunity will take place through a series of meetings on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. **The public open house/meeting in Coraopolis is scheduled for October 12, 2011 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Coraopolis Community Development Foundation located at 1000 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Coraopolis, PA 15108.**

This meeting will be a forum for the community, representatives of the U.S. EPA and the consultant team and will include:

1. Reviewing initial findings related to evaluation of the two study areas in Coraopolis; and
2. Providing the community the opportunity to participate, either in groups or in one-on-one dialogue, to contribute their ideas concerning the vision and direction for Coraopolis' revitalization specifically targeted on the Ohio Riverfront near the Neville Island Bridge and the area around Historic P&LE train station.

Residents can also keep tabs on the project through a project webpage [www.ohioriverbrownfields.com](http://www.ohioriverbrownfields.com)