

Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services Awarded to the City of Medford

On May 8, 2014 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) awarded Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services to the City of Medford for Phase I and II environmental activities at the former S&B Upholstery site, located at 749 South Whelen Avenue.

This one-acre site consists of a workshop and living space. It was used as a furniture refinishing, repair and upholstery facility since at least the early 1980s, and was abandoned in 2012. The current owner, Taylor County, and the City of Medford are working to assess and ready the site for expansion of the city's wastewater treatment plant, doubling the existing storage capacity. This expansion will allow for substantial industrial, commercial and residential growth in the city. The WAM award will assist with due diligence activities prior to acquiring the site. The award amount is expected to be approximately \$30,000.

The WAM program, administered by DNR's Remediation and Redevelopment Program, provides local governments, closing businesses and potential buyers with no-cost Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at closed or closing industrial sites to help ready them for reuse or redevelopment. These awards are not grants, they are no-cost consulting services to the recipient, and therefore require minimal effort by the awardee. This program is especially useful for small towns because there is no match or project administration involved.

Applications can be submitted for the program at any time. Eligible sites include closed or closing manufacturing plants and vacant land with a history of manufacturing. Gas stations, dry cleaners, salvage yards and agricultural coops are not eligible. For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/wam.html.

For more information on WAM or the Remediation and Redevelopment Program in Wisconsin, contact Darsi Foss, Director, DNR Remediation and Redevelopment Program, 608-267-6713.