

Contact Information:

Cathy Knapp, Partner
Southwest Michigan First
cknapp@southwestmichiganfirst.com
(269) 553-9588

September 30, 2020

For Immediate Release



**St. Joseph County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority is Successful in
Securing EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Funding**

Centreville, MI — The St. Joseph County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (SJC BRA) was successful in securing \$300,000 in U.S. EPA Brownfield Community-wide Assessment Grant funds to assess abandoned and contaminated properties. The funding was awarded through the EPA's Brownfields Program. "St. Joseph County is pleased to be the recipient of a new U.S. EPA Assessment Grant. These grants have played a significant role in supporting numerous commercial and industrial projects across the county," said Ken Jones, Chair of the SJC BRA. "We appreciate the efforts of Envirologic to help the county secure these funds and look forward to working with their team over the next several years to achieve even more successful results for the entire county." This grant will provide the resources not only for environmental assessments, but also for cleanup planning and community outreach activities.

These are very competitive grant funds; in Michigan, only nine communities received these federal funds. In total, 155 communities and organizations across the country were awarded the grants. "Grants awarded by EPA's Brownfield Program provide communities and tribes across the country with an opportunity to transform contaminated sites into community assets," said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. The communities awarded funds possess the skills necessary to transform brownfield sites into sites with productive uses, which will benefit targeted areas and the communities as a whole.

The SJC BRA has been fortunate to receive \$1,500,000 in EPA Brownfield Assessment Grants over the past 16 years. With these funds, they have assessed 75 sites in eight communities, resulting in approximately 1,500 new or retained jobs and over \$70 million in investment. The county has demonstrated success and competence in managing brownfield redevelopment grants in the past and is experienced in brownfield redevelopment. These new grant funds will help the SJC BRA build upon those successes.

The SJC BRA has named Envirologic Technologies, Inc., an environmental services and consulting firm, to manage this grant. "Envirologic is pleased to continue our relationship with St. Joseph County," said David Stegink, Vice President and Manager of Redevelopment Services for Envirologic. "We have been part of the county's economic development successes since 2004. These U.S. EPA funds are an important tool in supporting community development as well as business development at properties that are blighted or contaminated."

To learn more about the SJC BRA and how to submit a project application, please contact Cathy Knapp, with Southwest Michigan First, at (269) 553-9588.

#####

For over 31 years, Envirologic Technologies, Inc. has served as a full-service environmental consulting and services firm dedicated to assisting the regulated community in many facets of the environment. Based in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Envirologic provides support for brownfields, environmental investigation and remediation, compliance, due diligence services and more throughout Michigan, the Great Lakes Region and other states. To learn more, visit our [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).