



**News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office**  
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**July 18, 2011**

**Effort Underway to Develop Wolf River Brownfield Properties**

A public meeting will be held next week for those who want to develop property along the Wolf River. The 25-mile-long corridor stretches from Houston Levee Road to downtown Memphis and continues south to Crump Boulevard.

The first step in the development process is to have an environmental assessment of the land. The Shelby County Brownfields Council will approve a limited number of Phase I environmental site assessments to act as an incentive for redevelopment. A brownfield is defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as "a property where the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants may complicate the expansion, redevelopment or use."

**"Funding for the environmental site assessments is provided through two EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants totaling \$400,000 awarded to Shelby County Government in 2010,"** says Marion Jones who coordinates the project for the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and Development.

The grant public meeting will be held July 26<sup>th</sup> at the "Bridges," 477 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, at 5:30 p.m.

The goal is to develop these brownfield sites once they are determined to be safe. The grants help speed up the redevelopment by providing federal funds to pay for the environmental site assessments.

All applications must be submitted in person to the Memphis and Shelby County Division of Planning and Development by noon on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications will be available at the meeting but can be downloaded directly from the Wolf River Brownfields Assessment Grant webpage located at <http://www.shelbycountyttn.gov/index.aspx?NID=1427> under "How Do I Apply for a Grant Funded Phase I Environmental Assessment?"

For additional questions about the project or how to apply for a grant, call Marion Jones at (901) 576-7181, [marion.jones@memphistn.gov](mailto:marion.jones@memphistn.gov) or Felicia Harris at (901) 636-7354, [Felicia.Harris@memphistn.gov](mailto:Felicia.Harris@memphistn.gov)

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