

# Inspector training brings ‘dividends’ in the field

By Eva Smith-Carroll  
Division of Waste Management

Recently Division of Waste Management personnel from the Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Field Operations branches were trained by Petroleum Training Solutions, a newly formed national training company based in Clinton, Wash.

The company, comprised of tank experts Marcel Moreau, Steve Purpora and Ben Thomas, brought 75 years of combined tank experience to the week-long training event in Frankfort.

Advanced and intermediate underground storage tank inspector training provided 55 division staff with hands-on exercises involving actual testing protocols at active operating tank systems.

“This training event was by far the best course I have been involved with during my tenure with the division. We are already receiving dividends on our training investment,” said Stephen Kent, supervisor of the UST Branch’s Compliance Section. “Within a couple of weeks our inspectors were finding things in the field that they were trained to look for.”



**ABOVE:** Trainer Steve Purpora, center, explains the “Petro-Tite” testing method to Division of Waste Management inspectors James “Buck” McCloud, Doug Wireman, Curtis Scott, Jennifer Burnett, Kevin Strohmeier and Andrea Rader.

**LEFT:** Trainer Marcel Moreau conducts a corrosion test during a classroom exercise while inspector Steve Wesley assists.  
Division of Waste Management photos

# New year, new tools for brownfield redevelopment

By Amanda LeFevre  
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Believe it or not, there is actually a market for brownfield properties. People do seek them out for investment purposes. To help those who wish to redevelop these properties and communities that want them redeveloped, the Kentucky Brownfield Program has launched an online property submittal system to help populate the state’s official brownfield inventory.

Brownfields dot the landscape of Kentucky from the lakes of the west to the mountains of the east. Brownfields are properties that are abandoned or underutilized due to real or perceived contamination. They can include factories, abandoned gas stations, former dry cleaning establishments, illegal dumps, mine-scarred lands and illegal drug labs. There

are an estimated 8,000 brownfields in the state.

Why would anyone be interested in owning a site with potential contamination? These sites are often located in areas with good existing infrastructure and are close to main transportation routes. Depending on where they are and who owns them, they are eligible for incentives from the private sector, as well as state and federal governments.

The brownfield inventory will serve as a resource for those wanting to locate a business in Kentucky, wishing to expand a current business or wanting to create a public use area. It will also be a tool for cities that seek to redevelop neighborhoods that have experienced decline.

These areas are often blights on the community and do not contribute jobs for the surrounding neighborhoods or tax income for the city. However, by listing and redeveloping these target sites, a city can restore properties to active use, increase the job and local tax base, mitigate public health concerns and improve community image in areas that desperately need to be rehabilitated.

Properties on the inventory will be eligible for brownfield redevelopment incentives that can aid in the assessment and redevelopment of the property. The brownfield program staff will identify incentives available for each site and

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