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Grant to Fund Cleanup of Area Contaminated Properties

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$1.2 million in grants to clean up contaminated properties in 15 counties of northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas.

The EPA said the grants announced Thursday include \$200,000 to train about 40 low-income people in environmental remediation and wastewater treatment.

Funds will be administered by the St. Joseph-based Mo-Kan Regional Council, a nonprofit planning and economic development organization. Mo-Kan officials said they're already aware of nearly 400 properties that could qualify for cleanup of hazardous waste or petroleum contamination.

Kansas counties included in the grant are Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Jefferson and Nemaha. The Missouri counties are Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clinton, DeKalb, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway and Worth.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Missouri's National Resources Department will help identify and assess properties for cleanup.

Associated Press