



## 2025 PHOENIX AWARDS

Announcing the 2025 Phoenix Awards! The premier awards program for brownfields redevelopment is coming to Brownfields 2025 in Chicago, IL August 5-8, 2025.

The awards reflect the progression of brownfield redevelopment over the past 20+ years by recognizing extraordinary practitioners and projects. Today, brownfields redevelopment is an established practice area with expertise and organizations from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors across the country. The awards recognize exemplary practitioners and projects that are creating jobs, economic opportunity, and stronger communities.

**Nominations are due on April 30, 2025. All winners will be notified in June 2025 and recognized at Brownfields 2025 in Chicago, IL August 5-8, 2025.**

If selected the information from your submission will be used in online and printed media. Please use spelling, capitalization and punctuation as you want it to appear.



## PROJECT AWARDS

### CATEGORIES:

**Grand Prize (1 Award)**

**Regional Awards (10 Awards, 1 per EPA Region)**

### Application Outline

1. Project name
2. Project address
3. Project website and/or social media if applicable
4. Project size (Acres)
5. Redevelopment Team (Company/organization, team member names, partners, and affiliates.)
6. Previous uses (500 words max): Provide a brief narrative description about the site's previous use(s).
  
7. Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and Remediation Approach & Regulatory Compliance (500 words max):  
**20%**  
Provide a description of the ESA & remediation approaches used to achieve regulatory compliance (or beyond). For ESAs, please describe what was already known, and what was discovered through the due diligence and site discovery phases. The remediation description might include, but not be limited to, the use of removal, engineering controls, institutional controls, in situ-bioremediation, monitored natural attenuation, augmented monitored attenuation, etc. Please include the name of the state regulatory program used, and the outcome such as a No Further Action determination, title restrictions, etc.
  
8. Redevelopment Description (500 words max):  
**30%**  
Describe the redevelopment project in terms of type (residential/commercial/industrial/mixed use/agricultural/other), timeline, and other important factors that might include but not be limited to details such as source of financing, political dynamics, public incentives, surrounding community, planning processes, stakeholder engagement, public private partnerships, political influence of remediation on design and programming, special partnerships, relationship to comprehensive or small area plans, etc.



9. Positive Impact (500 words max):

**30%**

Please describe the positive social, environmental, and economic impact the site's redevelopment provides. The description can span the project's timeline from site identification through construction and management.

10. Innovation (500 words max):

**20%**

Please describe the innovations used on this project that helped bring it to fruition and resulted in compelling outcomes. Innovations might include but not be limited to the development concept and process, remediation approaches, technology, building science, partnerships, financing, liability management, etc.

11. Media Submission (optional):

You may submit media (photos, slides, videos) related to your project to accompany your submission. Provided media may be used in publications, news releases, online and in other communications.

(5 attachments, Link to media field)

**Scoring Criteria**

20%	Environmental Site Assessment and Remediation Approach & Regulatory Compliance
30%	Redevelopment Description
30%	Positive Impact
20%	Innovation



## **PEOPLE AWARDS**

The People Awards recognize the people behind the projects. Winners receive recognition at the 2025 National Brownfields Training Conference and an award.

### **Linda Garczynski Brownfields Person of the year**

The Linda Garczynski person of the year award recognizes an outstanding brownfield leader who recently championed brownfield redevelopment to promote and enhance significant community revitalization. Nominees come from the public, private, nonprofit, or community-based sectors. They display significant leadership in advancing the concepts, practices, and application of community renewal through brownfields cleanup and redevelopment. Nominations should describe the significant community impacts realized due to the leadership of the nominee.

### **Browndbreaker (Brownfield Groundbreaker)**

The Browndbreaker is someone who has evolved the understanding and practice of brownfield redevelopment by retooling the goals, process, and outcomes of a community brownfields project to promote community revitalization, and championed new practices and game changing policies. Areas of activity can include, but are not limited to, stakeholder engagement, assessment and remediation, planning, policy, finance, and law. Nominees should demonstrate leadership in making a visible difference to an impactful community brownfields project and sharpening our practice.

### **State & Local Brownfield Leadership Award**

The local leader award goes to someone at the local level (city/county/regional) who elevated our practice and made brownfields fundamental to how their communities evolve. The award goes to a public, private, or nonprofit leader who organized local communities, took risks, led projects, or otherwise demonstrated commitment to brownfield redevelopment.

### **Charlie Bartsch Lifetime Achievement Award**

This award celebrates an outstanding leader for his or her service to brownfields communities over the course of a career (or most of one) elevating brownfield redevelopment. Coming from the public, private, or nonprofit sectors, the recipient is someone who has forever changed the way we see and engage in brownfield redevelopment. This award is named in honor of the late Charlie Bartsch, who not only coined the term "brownfield", but mentored many of us in the brownfield community and left his imprint on our practice forever. Nominations must include a description of the nominee's significant achievements over the course of his or her career and the impacts he or she provided the national brownfields community.



### Application outline

1. Name of Nominee
2. Award Category
3. Location: City, State, neighborhood, etc.
4. Organization
  
5. Nomination narrative (500 word max): Please describe the activity the nominee has conducted in the brownfields arena that has influenced the way we work on brownfields today. Please refer to the description of the specific award for which they are nominated when creating this content. Tell us what the nominee does/did to shape brownfield redevelopment, and the positive impacts they have had on the environment, economy, and society. Be as specific as possible, with dates, outcomes, and other information that may help provide them with the recognition they deserve.
6. Links: Please include links to any news articles, websites, or other information that demonstrates the nominee's merits.
7. Media Submission (optional):  
You may submit media (photos, slides, videos) related to your nominee to accompany your submission. Provided media may be used in publications, news releases, online and in other communications. (5 attachments, Link to media field)

Scoring will be based on how closely a nominee reflects the award description.