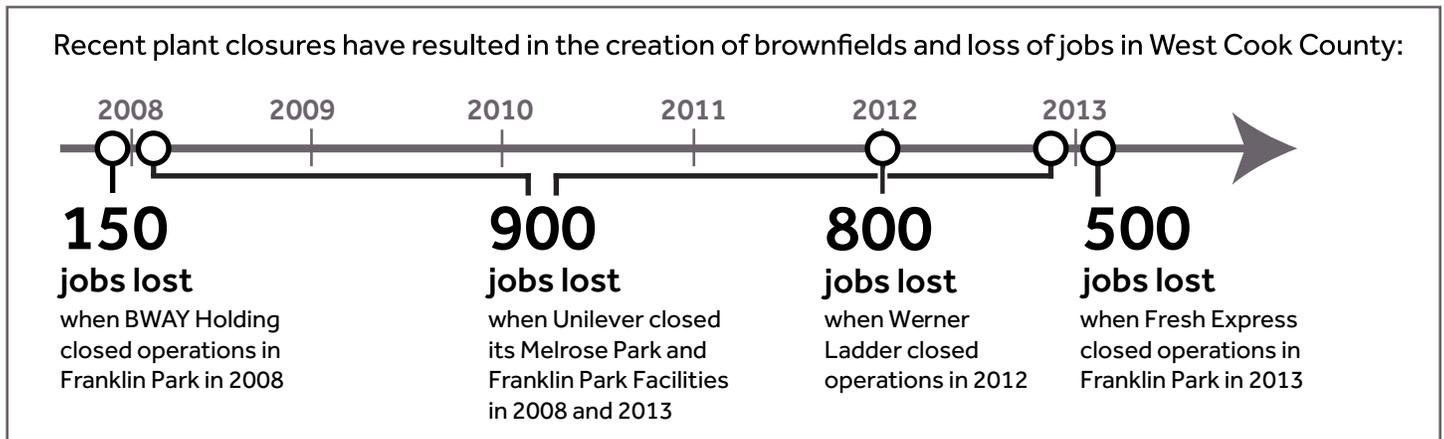


# ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF BROWNFIELDS IN WEST COOK COUNTY

Brownfield: "A real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant." (EPA)

Brownfield sites inhibit development in West Cook County communities and create blight, community apathy and disinvestment, can contribute to public health issues, and lead to a concentration of low-income households.



These and additional business closures have resulted in population declines and vacant and underutilized brownfield sites, which often do not generate property taxes. Surrounding property values are reduced as are related municipal revenues needed to fund city services such as police and fire.

According to the Illinois State Fire Marshall, there are 684 petroleum-related Underground Storage Tank (UST) locations in the seven-community Coalition. Many of these UST locations are classified as abandoned or orphaned and are potential sources of contamination and brownfields.

Additionally, the Center for Neighborhood Technology estimates there are over 80 brownfields in West Cook County.

Location	Number of Parcels	Acreage
Bellwood	6	17
Franklin Park	28	173
Forest Park	20	60
Maywood	17	48
Melrose Park	9	47
Northlake	4	21
Schiller Park	3	24
<b>Coalition Area</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>420</b>



# FROM BROWNFIELD TO JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



In **south suburban Harvey, IL** the former Allied Tube and former Allis Chalmers properties, and portions of the former Arco property, each located within the Harvey Phoenix Logistics Site were purchased by the Sterling Lumber Company.

U.S. EPA assessment grant funds were used to assess these properties. The result of these assessments were instrumental in purchase and use of the property by the Sterling Lumber Company.

The grant also funded the property's enrollment into the **Illinois Site Remediation Program**. Based on this property transaction, approximately 60 acres of formerly land has been returned to use. The company currently has over 100 employees working at this Site.

**The \$600,000 US EPA assessment grant awarded to the Coalition partners in West Cook County could be used to leverage similar development in West Cook County.**

