

Define the following words related to Brownfields

Using information provided by the teacher and obtained from research define the following terms in sentence form.



1. Brownfield A real piece of land in which the expansion, or reuse of which maybe complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant www.epa.gov/brownfields/glossary.htm
2. Contaminant A substance, element, or compound that may harm humans or other forms of life if released into the environment. Refers to concentrations that are above acceptable levels and/or are in a location where they should not be found (Barron's). The contaminant on a brownfield site is unwanted material that may cause harm to life on the land.
3. Superfund The Superfund Program helps clean up areas of the environment that are contaminated with hazardous waste. Years ago, people did not know that throwing hazardous waste on the ground might hurt humans, animals, and the environment. The waste was polluting the environment. When

Definitions: Brownfields

Superfund started in 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) started to clean up the some of these messes. The areas that are the most polluted are called Superfund sites. There are over 1,300 Superfund sites across the country. (EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/kids/intro/index.htm>)

4. By Product Produced as a result of the making of an intended product through a biological or industrial process; sometimes unexpected or unwanted.
5. Slag A by product made from the production of steel, from the impurities in the metal or ore. When steel is hot and newly made the slag floats on the top and the steel sinks to the bottom of the container. Slag is alkaline
6. Remediation This is the word used for cleaning or taking action to reduce, isolate, or remove contamination from an environment to prevent exposure to living things.
7. Alkaline A base. On the pH scale an alkaline has a pH above a 7.0. It has an excess of hydroxide anions (OH)⁻. This creates a problem in some brownfields; most plants prefer a mildly acidic soil (pH between 6.0 and 6.8), and alkaline soils inhibit plant growth on the brownfield. (NOTE: An acid has a pH below a 7.0 and low amounts of hydroxide ions (OH)⁻)



A Slag Dump near Pittsburgh has been redeveloped and is now a shopping center.