

Funding Opportunities for Small Businesses

Underground Storage Tank Program Loans

The Agency of Natural Resources has funds available to make individual loans of up to \$75,000 for the removal, replacement or upgrade of an underground or aboveground storage tank (UST, AST) used for the storage of petroleum products for the purpose of reducing the likelihood of a release of petroleum into the environment. Mobile park owners and apartment building owners are eligible to apply. The loans are at zero percent interest, repayable within ten years. Applications are processed similar to a Bank loan and collateral and/or personal guarantee is required.

Also UST Loans of up to \$75,000 are available to tank owners for the removal, installation, and upgrade of any category one tank. The term of loan is up to 10 years. Interest rate payable is 0% for owners who own 5 or fewer facilities and 4% for owners who own 6 or more facilities. Visit the Department of Environmental Conservation's web site at:
www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/ust/USTloans.htm

Department of Environmental Conservation Grants and Loans Programs

The summary can be found at: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/grants.htm#chart

Vermont Economic Development Authority (VEDA) promotes economic prosperity through a variety of financing programs, including those offering direct loans, industrial revenue bonds and the issuance of mortgage loan insurance. VEDA works closely with the State of Vermont Department of Economic Development and the state's Regional Development Corporations to assist companies wishing to expand or relocate their businesses in Vermont. 58 East State Street -Suite 5, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.
802-828-5627 info@veda.org visit their web site at: www.veda.org

The VT Department of Economic Development provides information to help businesses find the funding sources they need. Contact Brennan Duffy at: 802-828-1680 brennan@thinkvermont.com Read about opportunities at: www.thinkvermont.com/fin_serv/index.cfm Or visit the web site to find many different funding sources: <http://thinkvermont.com/financing/index.cfm>

The **Vermont Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** is a non-profit partnership of government, education, and business. Its goal is to spur Vermont's economy by helping its small businesses succeed and grow - providing free,

confidential counseling. P.O. Box 188, Randolph Center, VT 05061 802-728-9101, 1-800-464-7232 www.vtsbdc.org

The **VT Small Business Administration's (SBA)** financing programs provides financial assistance through its participating lenders in the form of loan guaranties, not direct loans. Loan proceeds can be used for working capital and to purchase machinery and equipment, real property, and inventory. Guaranteed loans may also be used to purchase an existing business. Terms vary depending upon the use of loan proceeds. Interest rates also vary depending upon the size and term of the loan. All terms and conditions are negotiated with the lender. For more information, call 802 828-4422.

Vermont Financing: www.sba.gov/vt/VT_FINANCING.html

Contact the VT SBA office at: www.sba.gov/vt/index.html

87 State Street - Room 205, Montpelier, VT 05602. 802-828-4422 Or visit the VT

SBA web site staff: www.sba.gov/vt/VT_VTSTAFF.html

Federal - EPA

EPA's Financing Guide for Recycling Businesses is designed to make the process of identifying and securing new sources of capital for new and expanding recycling enterprises more efficient.

www.epa.gov/docs/epaoswer/non-hw/recycle/finguide/index.htm

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) manages the **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program** to fund development and commercialization of new environmental technologies. Competitive solicitations covering air and water pollution control, solid and hazardous waste management, pollution prevention and environmental monitoring are issued annually.

Approximately 40 Phase I technologies are funded with \$70,000 awards for 6 months. Phase I winners are invited to participate in Phase II solicitation from which about 10-15 Phase II technologies are funded with up to \$225,000 over two years. Abstracts of awards, previous solicitations and various publications are available through the website at: <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/sbir/>

Or call the EPA - SBIR Helpline at: 800-490-9194

The **EPA's Small Business Gateway** (www.epa.gov/smallbusiness) site provides information for small businesses interested in saving money and funding sources, as does the Small Business Environmental Home Page www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/funding.html

EPA Grants and Debarment

It is EPA's policy to promote competition in the award of assistance agreements to the maximum extent practicable. Depending on the assistance program you are applying for, you will need to obtain an application kit from the appropriate Grants or Program Office that will administer the assistance program. This will be

one of ten EPA Regional Offices or from its Headquarters Office in Washington, DC. You should contact the appropriate office identified in the solicitation.

www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/how_to_apply.htm

Find current funding opportunities: <http://www.epa.gov/ogd> and:

www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/funding_opportunities.htm

EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

develops policy related to procurements and provides technical and management assistance to small, disadvantaged business enterprises, women-owned entities, Alaskan Indian/American Natives and HBCUs. For further information regarding procurement opportunities, contact the OSDBU at:

www.epa.gov/osdbu/grants_chart.htm

and Solicitations: www.epa.gov/osdbu/solicitations_chart.htm

Grant Funding in New England www.epa.gov/region01/grants/index.html

EPA's Pollution Prevention Division's Environmentally-Preferable Purchasing Program

is of interest to many companies, including small businesses that manufacture, distribute, or provide "green" products and services—those that present fewer potential risks to the environment and human health. The Federal government (the single largest purchaser of goods and services in the US) is increasingly factoring environmental considerations into its procurement decisions. Small businesses can gain a vast amount of information concerning the Federal acquisition process in the booklet, Selling Environmental Products to the Government, viewed at www.epa.gov/oppt/epp

**For more information contact:
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation:**

Environmental Assistance Office 103 South Main Street, Cannery Bldg. Waterbury VT 05671-4911 1-800-974-9559 or 802-241-3745 www.eaovt.org
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