

Jump-Starting Ecological Restoration

Summary: The goal of this Internet Seminar is to examine the relevance and importance of ecological restoration in the Superfund program and to discuss implementation strategies and specific techniques to speed the recovery of disturbed and contaminated land. By taking this Internet seminar, participants will learn why ecological restoration is important to the Superfund program; gain an understanding of the relationship between land disturbance, functioning ecological systems, and how restoration projects are managed; and learn various techniques. The seminar also will address in-situ remediation of metal contaminated soils. In short, participants can expect to learn how to jump-start restoration at a site.

Background: In December 2001, EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) launched the Revitalization Initiative. As with the EPA's Brownfields' pilot projects, OSWER recognized that reuse and redevelopment considerations should be incorporated in all of OSWER's cleanup programs. The Land Revitalization Office was formed to ensure coordination occurs across all OSWER offices to achieve the Agency's land use goals. The group serves as an advocate for reuse and revitalization of formerly contaminated land. They provide coordination on programmatic, policy, and regional implementation issues across all OSWER waste programs. The Land Revitalization Office develops methods to advocate, improve, and streamline OSWER reuse programs, tests new ways of conducting business, and assesses program trends to better determine further directions to enhance waste programs cleanup and reuse. This training is sponsored by EPA's Land Revitalization Office.