

# ALLISON HILL BROWNFIELD

A brownfield site is a property, expansion, redevelopment, or other use of land that is dangerous because of known or potential contaminants, pollutants, or toxic substances.

## ALLISON HILL - BACKGROUND



Allison Hill is a neighborhood in Harrisburg, PA that experiences the highest levels of poverty, the lowest economic growth, and the highest ethnic diversity. There are no pharmacies, grocery stores, or retail shops in Allison Hill, so residents are forced to leave their neighborhood to purchase necessities.



## HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

In the Allison Hill site, there are many known toxic substances, the main three being asbestos, arsenic, and lead paint. Each of these has several side effects:

- Asbestos: increased risk of cancer and diseases such as mesothelioma
- Arsenic: increased chance of cancer and epigenetic changes
- Lead paint: developmental skills delayed, hearing loss, kidney damage,

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



Brownfield sites cause many environmental consequences, including pollution from toxic substances within the site. This can include air pollution and water pollution if the chemicals are crushed and get into the air as particles or water through runoff pollution or by entering groundwater.

## JUST OR UNJUST SUSTAINABILITY?

This is an example of an unjust sustainability because of how the brownfield site is disproportionately affecting low-income people and people of color that reside in Allison Hill. There is also a lack of resources for residents within the neighborhood. Although the brownfield site could be cleaned up and used as a space for stores to build the neighborhood's economy, no action has been taken to do this despite a \$200,000 grant from the Pennsylvania EPA to clean up this brownfield in Allison Hill.

The EPA stated that "cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties increases local tax bases, facilitates job growth, utilizes existing infrastructure, takes development pressures off of the undeveloped, open land, and improves and protects the environment.