# Making Positive Happen

Mississippi Brownfield Projects incentivize growth





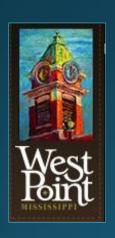


### Who we are



#### PM Environmental

PM Environmental has over 20 years of experience in consulting and managing a wide variety of environmental, engineering, industrial hygiene, energy and development projects. PM specializes in Economic Development Incentive/Brownfield Consulting.



#### City of West Point, Mississippi

West Point, Mississippi offers a variety of recreational pursuits and was named one of the "Top 100 Small Towns in America".



### Community Counseling Services

The Community Counseling Services' goal is to provide quality, affordable, consumer-oriented, comprehensive behavioral health services.

### **Property:**

- The former West Side Elementary School is located within a historic district neighborhood just a few blocks from the City's downtown.
- Originally built in 1948, it operated until 2011, when it was closed due to lack of funding to safely maintain the building. It has been vacant since.





#### Challenge:

- The approximately **22,000 square foot building** that sits on almost 2.2 acres with overgrown shrubbery, falling eves-troughs, cracked and falling brick, and crumbling paint became an eyesore.
- Access to these properties by residents, especially children and teenagers, becomes an increasing **health and safety concern**.
- Property creates a perceived view of the neighborhood as being dilapidated, potentially contaminated with asbestos and lead, and lacking investment.



#### Plan & Solution:

- Best end use of the site is public space.
- Redevelopment of the property was part of City Planning efforts, however, the large amount of asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) and lead base paint (LBP) was a hindrance.
- Asbestos was known to be in the school making the building a safety hazard and the best option is demolition.





#### **Plan & Solutions:**

- The West Point School District donated the property to the City in 2014 with the hopes that the City would have the ability to pursue resources, such as a Cleanup Grant, which it did successfully.
- PM Environmental and the City of West Point wrote a Cleanup Grant application to the EPA and \$200,000 was awarded to abate the asbestos and demolish the building.
  - MDEQ providing technical oversight and EPA providing grant oversight.
- The West Point Tennis Association is working to raise funds that can be contributed towards the project. Currently, they have \$4,000 and anticipate additional contributions based on future planned fundraisers in 2015.
- An estimated \$750,000 would be necessary to complete this project.





