

## Lakeside Factory (Brownfield)

The Lakeside Factory was an important place to work from 1940 until 1995. It is located on County Road 47 in Marquette County. It is just outside Marquette city limits. Today it is vacant. The site of the factory is 150 feet wide by 900 feet long. That is the same size as three football fields. The county has zoned the site for commercial activity, such as a shopping mall. The land could also be rezoned for certain types of industry, such as making furniture, wood stoves, or plastic pipes.

Nearby the site is a new shopping complex and new apartments. Joggers and kids riding dirt bikes use the site. People should not use the site, but the fence is down and can be crossed easily. There are no buildings on the site. Electric power, city water, and city sewer are available on the site. City bus lines pass in front of the site.

Marquette County owns the site. The last owner did not pay any taxes and the county claimed the site for back taxes. The county studied the site and discovered there is serious pollution of the soil from spilled oil. Oil has seeped into the soil but has not reached the groundwater. The top four feet of soil must be removed, cleaned, and deposited in a landfill for polluted soil. New, clean soil must be used to replace the soil that was removed. It will cost \$250,000.00 to clean the site. The land on the site is valued at \$195,000.00. Once it is cleaned, it may be worth \$300,000.00.

There is interest in using the site. The uses could be:

- Apartments
- Shopping mall
- Small factory for furniture, stove, or plastic pipe manufacturing

The brownfield is an eyesore. The County Board is being pressured to clean up the site. The community would like to see jobs provided as part of a land use decision.