RESOURCES

Center for Community Progress
The Washington, DC-based nonprofit provides technical assistance on vacant and abandoned issues. The resource page on the center's website offers reports on a range of vacancy issues, including brownfield development, demolition, land banking, state laws and economic impact.
http://www.communityprogress.net/

City of Pittsburgh Land Recycling Task Force
The city task force's resource archive contains presentations and reports on issues related to vacant and blighted property in Pittsburgh and elsewhere, including land banking, legal options and proposed Pennsylvania legislation.
www.pittsburghpa.gov/landrecycling/

gtech
The work of the Pittsburgh nonprofit includes using environmental "green" strategies to reclaim vacant properties. The nonprofit's resource page offers case studies and reports on greening vacant property.
www.gtechstrategies.org

Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania
The nonprofit housing coalition, which has some 500 member organizations statewide, provides education, training, research and technical assistant on housing issues, including vacancy and blight. Its resource library holds reports on vacancy, community development and other issues.
www.housingalliancepa.org

Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group
PCRG is a coalition of community organizations in and around the City of Pittsburgh that works with its members on a number of issues, including reducing blight through land recycling. Its Vacant Property Working Group focuses on public policy development and property acquisition.
www.pcrg.org

Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System
Managed by the University of Pittsburgh's University Center for Social and Urban Research PNCIS, it is among the most sophisticated property information systems in the nation offering data on vacant property, tax delinquency, foreclosures, property ownership and other topics.
www.ucsur.pitt.edu/pncis.php

Pittsburgh TODAY
Pittsburgh TODAY is an online resource offering key indicators of conditions within the Greater Pittsburgh region and in 14 benchmark regions in the United States on topics ranging from arts and education to economy and housing, including vacancy.
www.pittsburghtoday.org

Remaking Cities Institute, Carnegie Mellon University
The institute promotes collaboration between faculty, researchers, and public and private sector professionals focusing on urban design and rebuilding urban communities. Projects include studying options for reinventing Hazelwood and one of Pittsburgh largest remaining brownfields.

www.cmu.edu/rci/index.html

University of Pittsburgh University Center for Social and Urban Research
In addition to the PNCIS data warehouse, the center includes an Urban Regional Analysis
project with resources related to housing and other regional and neighborhood issues, including
Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly, technical reports and neighborhood reports.
http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/index2.php

REPORTS

Recent reports on vacant properties, legal issues and options for addressing them include the
following:

Land Banks and Land Banking (2011)
Published by the Washington, DC-based nonprofit Center for Community Progress, the report
details the use of land banks to address vacant and blighted property across the nation,
including a step-by-step guide for taking control of problem properties.
www.communityprogress.net/land-bank-book-resources-105.php

Quick Guide: New Tools to Address Blight and Abandonment (2011)
This guide published by the House Alliance of Pennsylvania is a primer on new Pennsylvania
laws and changes to existing laws that offer options for turning vacant and blighted properties
into assets rather than liabilities.
http://www.housingalliancepa.org/resources/46

Recapturing Land for Economic and Fiscal Growth (2011)
The paper, published by the Brookings Institute, examines vacant land and abandoned
properties, their local economic impact and what actions can be taken to repurpose them,
including property tax reform, code enforcement and taking control of problem properties.
www.brookings.edu/papers/2011/0503_land_value_mallach_vey.aspx

Southwestern Pennsylvania Blighted and Abandoned Properties Solutions Project (2010)
The report, published by Sustainable Pittsburgh, offers a comprehensive examination of vacant,
blighted and abandoned property in southwestern Pennsylvania, including a range of options
and recommendations for addressing the issue.
www.sustainablepittsburgh.org/Pub/SWPABlightedandAbandonedPropertiesSolutionsProjectRe
port_12909.pdf

Vacant Land Management in Philadelphia (2010)
Prepared for the Redevelopment Authority of Philadelphia, the report is one of the few that looks
at the total cost cities and homeowners pay when property becomes vacant and blighted.
www.econsult.com/projectreports/VacantLandFullReportForWeb.pdf

Vacant to Vibrant (2006)
The report, published by Carnegie Mellon University H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy
and Management, offers a guide to reclaiming vacant lots with a focus on Pittsburgh.
www.gtechstrategies.org/assets/CommHandbook_VacantToVibrant.pdf