



# RCRA Corrective Action Cleanup + Productive Use

## Economic Profile

# Safety-Kleen Systems

Auburn, Washington

### BEFORE

Chemical storage and recycling facility

### AFTER



Construction Company



Metal Fabricator



Roofing Company



Towing Company



Game Store

Safety-Kleen Systems began operating at this site in Auburn, Washington, in 1988. The company performed oil recovery services and recycled used solvent for more than two decades. These operations resulted in soil contamination at the site.

Environmental investigations began in 1994, and the Washington State Department of Ecology oversaw the subsequent cleanup. Safety-Kleen cleaned up the site using air sparging and soil vapor extraction, in which air is first injected underground to evaporate contaminants and then collected and treated. The cleanup lasted from 1997 until the site met clean closure standards in 2002.

Today, the site is home to seven retail and industrial businesses, which together employ 34 people and generate more than \$6 million in annual revenue.

### CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

Washington State Department of Ecology



EMPLOYEES

34



ANNUAL SALES

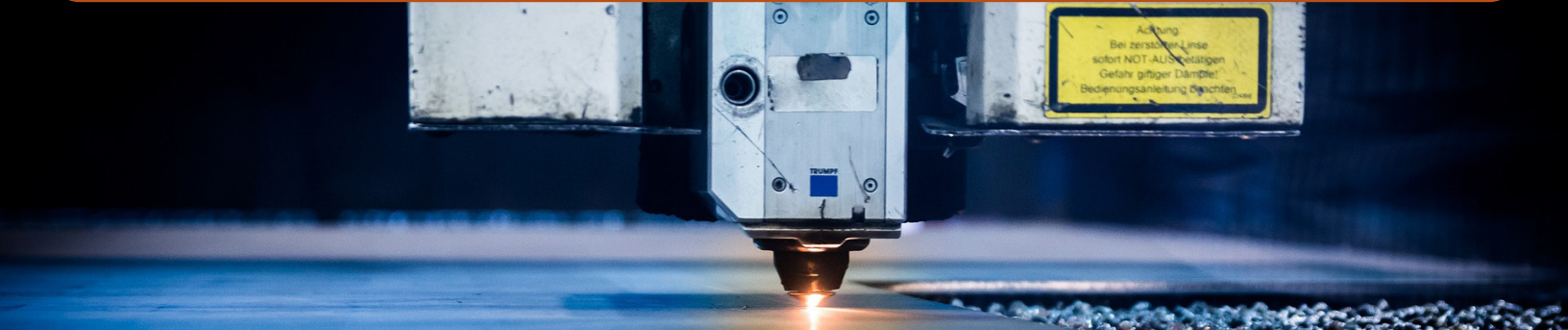
\$6.4 million

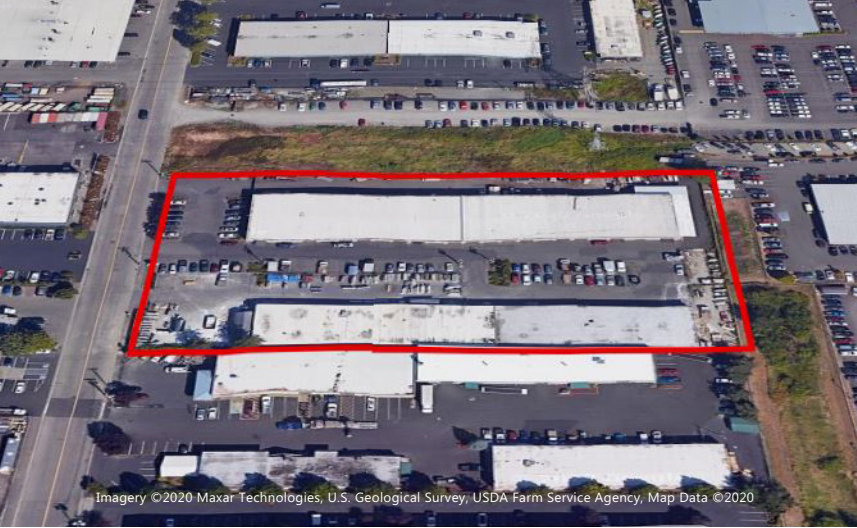


ANNUAL WAGES

\$2.2 million

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit [www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action](http://www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action)





THE CORRECTIVE ACTION HAS PROVIDED A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO NOT ONLY IMPROVE THE OVERALL HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY, BUT TO RETURN THIS PIECE OF LAND INTO A USABLE AREA THAT BENEFITS THE STRENGTH OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES AND WORKERS.

Nancy Backus, Mayor of Auburn

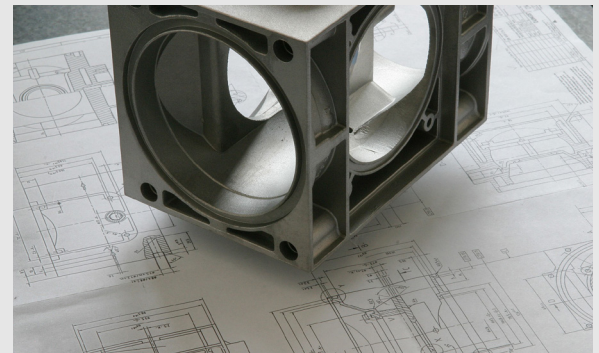
Since the site was declared ready for anticipated use in 2007, the former Safety-Kleen facility has been transformed into a small business park. While more work needs to be done in this area to address historical imbalances regarding the location of industrial operations in relationship to housing, a number of companies have stepped in to fill a variety of needs for the local community and beyond.

One of the site's businesses, RJM Corporation, employs 10 people and fabricates metal molds for the aerospace and retail industries. RJM continues to use traditional tooling techniques as well as modern processes in its work. This flexible and responsive approach to customer needs earns RJM around \$1.5 million in sales annually. Other businesses on the site include a towing company, a roofing company, a tool company and a construction company.

With a successful cleanup behind it, this site's transformation into a thriving business park provides lasting benefits for the Auburn community.



Rick's Two-Way Towing employs six people at the site, proving an estimated \$260,000 in annual wages.



RJM Corporation fabricates production mockups and prototypes for engineering tests and trade shows.

[Tow truck with car](#) by Rasbak/CC BY-SA 3.0.

