

Case Study: To Share Brewing Company

EPA Region 1

To Share Brewing Company, a microbrewery in Manchester, New Hampshire, has a vision to be a vibrant part of their community and is continually striving to use less energy and water and to produce less waste, while brewing great beer. To Share owner and head brewer, Aaron Share, contacted New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Program (NHPPP) prior to opening for assistance in meeting this goal.

In order to better manage the brewery's energy and water use, To Share Brewing is participating in the National Brewer's Association Benchmarking Program. As brewing began, Share noted there was a significant amount of saleable beer lost in the process of transferring the beer from the fermentation tanks to the serving tanks in the cooler. A system was already in place to use the shortest hose run possible for the transfer, but this required at least 40 feet of hose. To minimize this loss even further, Share created a port with a sealing plug in the side of the walk in cooler, allowing the transfer hose to go directly into the cooler and not lose cool air through the port. This port reduced the amount of beer lost per transfer by about 4-5 gallons per transfer.

Wasted beer is a high strength waste requiring treatment when it reaches the wastewater treatment plant and is costly for the municipality to treat. This savings is not only good for the environment and the community, it is good for To Share Brewing's bottom line. The amount of beer saved per batch is equivalent to 42 pints of beer. If sold in the taproom the value would be about \$250.

To Share Brewing also used many repurposed materials in the creation of their taproom. The bar and chair rails are made out of old church pews. The walk-in cooler is built from panels previously part of a grocery store's walk-in cooler. The panels were carefully sealed with spray foam, creating an energy efficient cooler at the brewery, for a fraction of the price of a new cooler and without the environmental cost of manufacturing new panels. In addition, the brewery is entirely outfitted with energy efficient LED lighting.

To Share Brewing understands that small changes in efficiency add up to large improvements in their environmental impact, cost savings, and benefits for their community.



