

Case Study: Brick Brewing Co.

Background:

Brick Brewing Co Limited operates a packaging and distribution centre located in Kitchener, Ontario. Beer from Brick's brewing facility is trucked daily to the distribution centre, where it undergoes further processing and storage prior to packaging. The distribution centre also receives returned bottles which are washed at the facility and refilled.

Under the Regional Municipality of Waterloo's W.E.T. Program, Brick retained the services of Enviro-Stewards to complete a water conservation assessment. The purpose of the assessment was to identify conservation opportunities, quantify savings and approximate their financial returns.



Water Saving Solutions:

The Brick Brewing Co. made a plumbing change that allowed them to use process water diverted from the bottle washing system to cool down their hot boiler blowdown water using a tank and pump. Prior to the change, once-through municipal water was used to cool sewer discharges to acceptable levels. There were also some leaks repaired inside the plant.

Economic Benefits:

Savings of \$150,000 annually, which represents a three month payback period.

Water Savings:

59,500 m³ of water annually or 163 m³/day.

"The GRCA applauds the efforts of the Region of Waterloo and its partners to work towards sustainable use of the community's water resources. Brick Brewery's reduction of 59,000 cubic metres per year is equivalent to the annual water consumption of 200 households. The success of the Region's Water Efficient Technology Program for business will help accommodate future growth while conserving resources and maintaining a healthy environment."

- Paul Emerson, CAO, Grand River Conservation Authority



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