Iowa Waste Reduction Center Newsletter, March 2019

University of Northern Iowa. Iowa Waste Reduction Center.
Green Beer All Year
Written by Joe Bolick, Manager of the Iowa Green Brewery Certification

Spring is finally in the air. The birds are chirping, brackets are busted and that little leprechaun was celebrated by many earlier this month with toasts of green beer across the nation. Here in Iowa, however, we have the opportunity to enjoy green beer all year thanks to the Iowa Green Brewery Certification.

Launched just over two years ago, the Iowa Green Brewery Certification works with Iowa craft breweries to minimize their environmental impacts while maximizing the efficiency of their operations. The program focuses on several areas of the brewing process including energy efficiency, water quality/conservation, waste management, and overall environmental planning. IWRC staff will visit a brewery upon request and conduct a thorough audit of their operation and complete a certification scoresheet. After the audit, we will then provide the brewery with their score and a recommendations report outlining various ways they can improve their score and minimize their environmental impact even more.

Based on their score, breweries can earn one of four levels of certification: bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. In the two years the program has been running, the IWRC has now certified nearly 25% of the breweries across the state. Breweries benefit from this certification not only from feeling great about doing the right thing, but they also receive immeasurable marketing and promotional advantages from becoming certified. We provide each certified brewery with window clings, a framed certificate to display as well as local media promotion and wide-reaching social media exposure.

If participating breweries are interested (and members of the national Brewer’s Association), our student intern will go onsite and input a brewery’s utility and water usage data into the BA’s Sustainability Benchmarking Tool. This tool allows member breweries to compare their environmental impact with other breweries of similar size and scope across the nation.
This program has continued to grow and thrive. Be on the lookout for similar programs to be sprouting across the nation as well as some other new internal development…..stay tuned!

For more information, please visit iwrc.uni.edu/green-brewery

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**IWRC NEWS**

**STAR4D Program Featured in Cedar Valley Business Monthly**
The Iowa Waste Reduction Center’s very own STAR4D (Spray Technique Analysis and Research for Defense) program was featured in last month’s Cedar Valley Business Monthly! Now onto its 15th year, the program continues to provide its quality hands-on training to military painters all over the United States. Read more [here](#).

**Minor Source Emissions Inventory Assistance**
MSEI season is underway. Facilities in the eastern third of Iowa must submit their 2018 MSEI by **May 15, 2019**. IWRC’s Iowa Air Emissions Assistance Program has many resources available to help including tutorials, calculators, checklists, and even one-on-one training sessions at no charge for Iowa businesses with less than 100 employees. For more information, visit iwrc.uni.edu/msei.

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**INDUSTRY NEWS**

| Recycling |
| Starbucks announces trials for recyclable cups, lids [Waste Dive](#) |

| Brewery Sustainability |
| Saint Paul Brewing Teams with Footprint Earth to Create Arbeer [Waste 360](#) |
Air Quality permits under review (Iowa DNR)

EPA Finalizes Standards for Managing Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals (Waste 360)

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