



LANCASTER BREWING COMPANY

Practices to reduce runoff leads to becoming a model of sustainable brewing

PROJECT GOALS

Develop and pilot a privately financed urban retrofit business model to accelerate the rate of implementation and cost-effectiveness of urban stormwater retrofits to divert stormwater through best management practices rather than directly into the city's combined sewer system.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Surrounding communities are given the opportunity to learn about the importance of green infrastructure and how it can positively impact their lives and city.
- Planting vegetation beautifies the area, attracting consumers and visitors.
- Vegetated curb extensions reduce lane widths, which helps slow traffic and increase safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Vegetation planted in rain gardens and vegetated curb extensions reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality.
- Permeable surfaces help reduce flooding by capturing and filtering stormwater, thereby reducing contaminants entering local waterways.

CONSERVATION PROJECTS INSTALLED

- Rain gardens.
- Vegetated curb extensions.
- Cistern.
- Porous paver parking.



Patio rain garden and vegetated curb extension outside Lancaster Brewery. (Photo: City of Lancaster)



Vegetated median outside Lancaster Brewery. (Photo: City of Lancaster)

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Lancaster Brewing Company is at the intersection of Plum and Walnut streets in Lancaster, PA. This project is part of the City of Lancaster's ongoing commitment to reduce urban stormwater runoff and associated pollutants. The brewery has transformed the south-facing exterior into a stormwater collection zone to help prevent millions of gallons of stormwater runoff from entering local waterways and, ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay. This project features green infrastructure improvements, including:

- Rain gardens and vegetated curb extensions.
- A patio with permeable pavers.
- A 750-gallon cistern that captures rainwater and serves as public artwork that resembles a grain silo, paying homage to Lancaster's brewing culture and agricultural roots.
- Porous paver parking spaces.

Lancaster Brewing Company has also become a part of energy-sustainable brewing. The company has partnered with GREENCROWN Energy to obtain Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) that account for the power they use. The credits support wind-powered electricity production, enabling the brewery to produce its food and beer with 100% renewable energy.

THE PARTNERS AND FUNDING SOURCES

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- City of Lancaster

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