

# Arbor Brewing Company

Ypsilanti, Michigan



In 1995, **Arbor Brewing Company** (ABC) was founded by the husband and wife team, Matt and Rene Greff, who share a passion for beer and adventure. ABC has a commitment to handcrafted beer, exceptional hospitality, local sourcing, community involvement, and most note-worthy, environmental stewardship.

ABC became Michigan's first solar brewery when their original Ann Arbor location came online with a solar-thermal and photovoltaic (PVT) system. ABC took it up a notch at their Ypsilanti Microbrewery location, The Corner Brewery, including solar-thermal, photovoltaic, and geo-thermal technologies into the renovations.

The Corner Brewery's System includes 144 PVT panels, which output approximately 19,235 kWh electrically per year and solar-thermal that generate roughly 76,000 kWh of thermal energy per year. This amounts to \$4,973 in savings based off September 2015 kWh of electricity and natural gas. The electricity generated from the PVT and solar-thermal system is utilized for regular brewery and restaurant operations as well as to power the pumps used in the solar system. Thermal energy is used to preheat Domestic Hot Water both for Brewery and Restaurant activities.

Though ABC is already a leader in sustainable brewing practices, they are continually focused on conserving water and energy by taking advantage of programs offered by state and local governments, DTE, and local partners who not only have a passion for the environment, but craft beer as well!

Director of Brewery Operations, Dan Peron, explains, "aside from all the savings and incentives have been gained, it has also given us even more insight as to where we need to focus next." ABC is working on numerous projects to improve lighting, decrease water use, and replace older equipment that is less efficient than new technologies.

"There is a lot of 'low hanging fruit' out there, and instead of becoming overwhelmed with it all, we are able to look back at what we have accomplished as a team so far, and really focus on each procedure - waste stream, energy supply, etc."

- Dan Paron  
Director of Brewery Operations  
Arbor Brewing Company Microbrewery

As a result of ABC's commitment to the environment, they have received Washtenaw County's Environmental Excellence Award in 2000 and were named Green Business of the Year by both Clean Water Action and the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors in 2013.

