



Brewers Association + Net Impact Sustainability Internship Opportunity

June 5, 2017

Introduction

The Brewers Association (BA) is looking for collaboration opportunities with Net Impact to help advance sustainability in the brewing sector. The purpose of the BA is to promote and protect American craft brewers, their beers and the community of brewing enthusiasts. Maintaining a healthy balance between environmental stewardship, social enrichment, and economic vitality is important to the future success of craft brewing. The sustainability subcommittee serves the BA purpose by helping current members and future generations to brew the highest quality beers in a manner that strengthens the value of our businesses, increases the resiliency of the natural environment and agricultural systems that provide brewing ingredients, and enhances the lives of our workforce and the communities we call home. Best practice manuals and on-line benchmarking tools have been developed to help craft brewers on their sustainability journey.

Sustainability Benchmarking

The BA has benchmarked and published sustainability related key performance indicators for approximately 80 craft brewers of all sizes. The benchmarking provides a platform for the craft brewing community to share best practices for using water more efficiently, generating less wastewater and solid waste, decreasing total energy usage and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, an on-line system has been developed to allow ongoing benchmarking to continue and for individual breweries to set and track progress against targets. The number of participating breweries has doubled from the original benchmarking participants with a goal of 300 breweries in the system by the 4th quarter of 2017. Craft breweries that participated in a 2014 pilot benchmarking study and target setting exercise were able to identify potential cost savings ranging from \$35,000 to \$235,000.

Assignment Description

Most craft breweries across the nation are highly entrepreneurial, with each coworker filling several roles to meet the daily demands of small business. Tracking down utility invoices and entering and analyzing sustainability data requires additional human resources they don't often have. This is one of the main reasons more breweries have not yet participated in the benchmarking project. The BA is seeking interested and qualified graduate level Net Impact students to assist local craft breweries with collecting, entering and analyzing sustainability related data through the BA benchmarking tools. The assignment would include the following tasks:

1. Review videos explaining execution of the project and attend a webinar conducted by the BA Sustainability Mentor
2. Identify craft breweries within a reasonable driving distance of the student's location for outreach
3. Contact each brewery by phone or email to introduce the project
4. Assist interested breweries in signing up for access to the online tools
5. Assist interested breweries in collecting monthly utility billings
6. Conduct a primary visit to each participating brewery to assist in data entry
7. Participate in a call with the BA Sustainability Mentor to review the data entered and to create a potential sustainability strategy
8. Conduct a follow-up visit to each participating brewery to present the results and potential sustainability strategy
9. Work with the BA Sustainability Mentor to resolve any outstanding issues or questions

The assignment is envisioned to be a 40 hour commitment for each participating brewery. For example, if the Net Impact student identifies 5 interested breweries in their proximity, the total time commitment would be 200 work hours. This is not a paid internship.

Qualifications

The successful Net Impact candidate will be a graduate level student with a basic understanding of the business, environmental and social aspects of sustainability. Selected candidates will exhibit strong communication skills, a passion for the assignment, and will be able to provide a letter of recommendation from an academic advisor or employer.

Applications

Interested candidates should submit a current resume, letter of recommendation, and any other supporting information that demonstrates the qualifications listed above to John Stier, BA Sustainability Mentor at sustainabilitymentor@brewersassociation.org.

Supporting Links

<https://www.brewersassociation.org/best-practices/sustainability/>

<https://www.brewersassociation.org/best-practices/sustainability/sustainability-benchmarking-tools/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSjO6FnnAMg>