

Mason Balster

Project Abstract - August Schell Brewing Company



INTERN

Mason Balster

BS Environmental Engineering, University of Minnesota 2020

MS Environmental Engineering, University of Minnesota 2021 (*expected*)

PROJECT FOCUS

Wastewater

ADVISOR

Michelle Gage

COMPANY

August Schell Brewing Company



COMPANY DESCRIPTION

August Schell Brewing Company is the largest brewery in Minnesota in terms of production volume. The brewery has been producing beer and root beer for over 100 years.

INCENTIVE

In producing about 120,000 barrels of beer each year, there is significant water use and waste generation. Schell's is interested in reducing their carbon footprint, improving brewing efficiency, and lowering the cost of production.

GENERAL APPROACH

The MnTAP intern identified different sources of wastewater loading and investigated how high concentration waste streams could be separated out and processed as an additive for animal feed, fertilizer, or feedstock for anaerobic digestion.

FOCUS OF RESEARCH / RECOMMENDATIONS

The focus of this project was to reduce wastewater loading. Other opportunities to reduce water use throughout the facility were also explored, including water reuse in non-contact applications and filter backwash practices.