

## Quick Wins and Sustained Savings on Tap with Mill Street Brewery's Energy Management Program

Founded in 2002 with an earth-friendly philosophy, Toronto-based Mill Street Brewery is the largest producer of certified organic beer in Canada. In 2018, the powerhouse craft brewer engaged Goldfin Consulting to take its sustainability agenda to the next level with a strategic energy management program.

Working with Goldfin to implement a strategic energy management program at Mill Street Brewery has been beneficial in ways that informed and inspired our team. From the outset, we shared a common vision for driving operational sustainability, bringing into focus a set of meaningful energy savings actions that put us on track to **exceed our 10 percent electricity reduction goal for 2019**.

Goldfin's methods have been **engaging and stress-free**, due in part to their useful performance tracking tool, which has been instrumental in our ability to regularly analyze, report and take effective actions. Today we now have the infrastructure in place to effectively manage our energy use and costs for the long term.

As the brewery's resident engineer, Eric wears many hats and is involved in all maintenance, equipment upgrade, and expansion projects. He is always looking for ways to improve operations and fine-tune the brewery. In late 2018, Eric was handed a new challenge — cut energy costs. Goldfin provided Eric with a plan, the expertise, and the resources to achieve his energy goal without detracting from his many other responsibilities.

Eric has proven himself to be an excellent energy champion by aligning the overall objectives of his role with his energy target. He combines his technical chops with a motivational leadership style to bring the Mill Street team together and accomplish their energy goals. Simply put, Eric gets stuff done. He walks the talk, and the brewery's energy savings achievements in the first six months speak for themselves.

—  
**Eric Labrie,**  
*Resident Engineer*  
*Mill Street Brewery*



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please visit us at:

**Goldfin.ca**

# Mill Street Brewery

## Energy Management Success Story



### PLAN

To establish Mill Street's vision and a baseline for success, Goldfin first organized a planning workshop with the company's management team and conducted an assessment of current energy management practices. From there, we collaborated with the brewery to develop the Mill Street Energy Charter and Strategic Energy Management Plan. The plan outlines target opportunities, roles and responsibilities, and a goal to reduce electricity consumption by 10 percent by the end of 2019 and 20 percent by the end of 2020.



### DO

In close collaboration with Mill Street's resident engineer and energy champion, Eric Labrie, we held an Energy Kaizen — a coordinated walk-through of the brewery with a cross-functional team — to pinpoint sources of energy waste and discover viable improvements. The Kaizen identified 30 potential "quick win," low/no-cost improvements that the brewery could make immediately. It also uncovered 40 longer-term opportunities, such as equipment upgrades, for further investigation. To help guide Mill Street in its decision-making process, we updated the energy management plan using the Kaizen results to create action plans for the prioritized opportunities, discretely identifying next steps, owner and due dates.



### ACT

With Goldfin's coaching and support, Mill Street is seeing a significant return on its investment to reduce energy costs. Within the first six months, Mill Street implemented more than half of the identified "quick win" improvements, saving more than \$50,000 in energy costs per year with minimal capital investment. Capital projects are being investigated in parallel and, once implemented, will further reduce energy costs. Mill Street is on track to exceed its 10 percent energy savings target for 2019.



### CHECK

To provide Mill Street with data it could act on, Goldfin developed a proprietary energy performance model that pulls together the brewery's historical energy consumption, climate, and production variables. Goldfin and Eric use the tool to track weekly energy use, validate energy savings from measures taken, and forecast annual savings. Now energy is a topic of discussion at the weekly management roundtable, with the model established as a key strategic tool for managing and forecasting costs — so much so that Mill Street asked Goldfin to develop a similar model for water consumption.

## MILL STREET BREWERY ENERGY CHARTER

Mill Street Brewery is committed to lifting up the craft beer category through measurable actions; brewing award-winning beers while implementing environmentally sustainable practices and initiatives.

To be Poured with Purpose means working to increase the efficiency of our operations and production process to get the maximum use out of our resources. Our commitment to Organic means striving for best-in-class environmental and sustainability standards.



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