

# Sustainability Internship for Land-Grant Brewing

**Evan Binder – EEDS Major**

## OVERVIEW

This summer I worked for Land-Grant Brewing Company based in Franklinton, a neighborhood just west of downtown Columbus. My position at Land-Grant was their summer sustainability intern. I found my position at Land-Grant by referral by a close friend. I then found the application portal on their website. I had already gathered experience with project-based sustainability work through prior classes, so the position was a good fit. The position interested me because it described to be a role where I could directly apply my knowledge and experience from EEDS classes.



## LAND-GRANT MISSION STATEMENT

“We know that craft beer and breweries can be intimidating and feel exclusive. In a crowded craft beer market, we bring our Ohio community together by building customer connections through our passion toward the craft, quality, and creativity of our beers and experiences. We build those connections by taking the lead in creating an inclusive and welcoming craft beer culture where everyone can come to Land-Grant and find that beer or experience that is for them.”



## AT LAND-GRANT

My main objective at Land-Grant was to work under the controller to plan and implement sustainability projects. Some exciting prospective projects included:

- Solar panel system
- CO2 reclamation
- Compostable Cups
- Recycling

### 2.1 PV System Design Details

**General Information**  
Facility: Meter #1  
Address: 424 W Town St Columbus OH 43215

**Solar PV Equipment Typical Lifespan**  
Solar Panels: Greater than 30 Years  
Inverters: 15 Years

**Solar PV System Cost and Incentive:**  
Solar PV System Cost: \$111,655  
Federal Tax Credit: -\$29,030  
Federal - MACRS Bonus Depreciation: -\$52,399  
**Net Solar PV System Cost: \$62,225**

**Solar PV System Rating**  
Power Rating: 50.5 kW-DC  
Power Rating: 38.1 kW-AC

**Energy Consumption Mix**  
Est. Annual Energy Use: 284,000 kWh



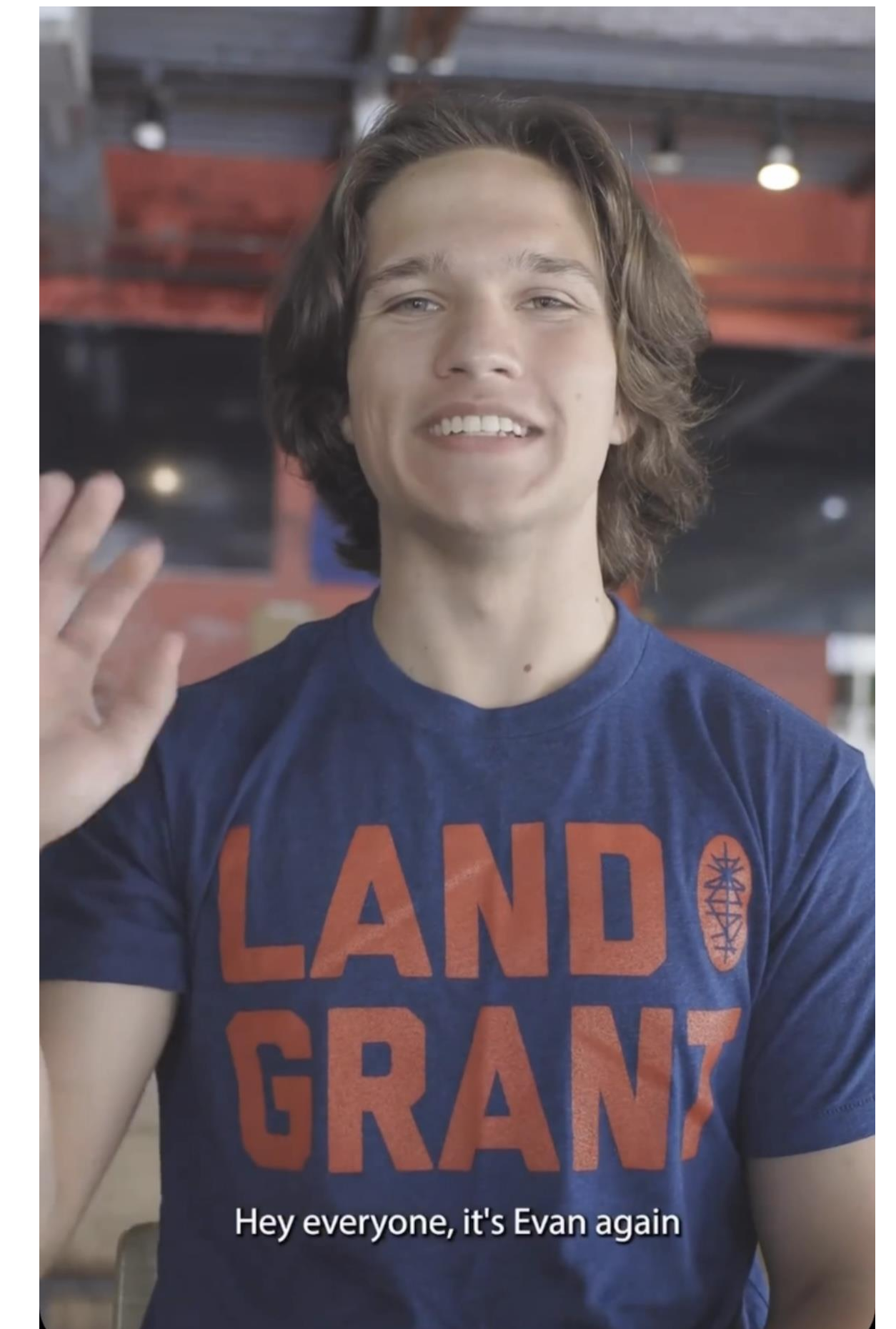
Many projects that had a higher upfront cost were deferred because the company was preparing to expand and chose to dedicate their liquid assets for that project.

Other than my main tasks, I also got to do several other things that brought more value to my experience in the position. These activities include:

- Making informative videos about sustainability that were posted on the company's social media.



- Attending an Ohio Craft Brewers Association meeting.
- Meeting with other brewers to talk about what they do to be more sustainable and hopefully find something that Land-Grant can implement as well.
- Record the usage of the utilities at the brewery, as well as cost of waste, CO2 usage, and other chemicals usage.
- Developed a relationship between the brewery and a brewing waste broker to help get spent grain to local farmers
- Improved upon the rain barrel system, using a pump, automation and the existing irrigation lines to allow it to water multiple plant boxes, eliminating manual use of the barrel.
- Give a 'State of Sustainability at Land-Grant' presentation to the leadership team.



## REFLECTION

This internship was a very interesting experience for me because I did not only get to learn about how a local company can be more sustainable, but I also got to learn the ins and outs of the craft brewing industry – something I knew nothing about before I started in my position. Moving forward, I hope to work in a sustainability position after graduation. For students interested in a similar position, my advice is to always be proactive to seek out ways to bring value to your position, as many companies that are similar in size will only have one position dedicated to sustainability.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to James and Scott from Land-Grant for working to make my position to be the most valuable experience possible.



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