

Fox Run Vineyards Seeks Practical Approaches to Reduce Environmental Impacts



Challenge

Fox Run wanted to identify practical approaches to help them become more sustainable at their Penn Yan location.

Solution

NYSP21 and CEEL worked with Fox Run to assess cost-effective BMPs and performed an on-site assessment to review their current winery operation. The evaluation helped to identify practical options to reduce environmental impacts related to the Fox Run winery operation.

Results

The ERP Sustainability Initiative for NYS Wineries assessment identified opportunities to reduce water and chemical use, wastewater generation, solid waste, and energy consumption.

Fox Run Vineyards, Inc.

Fox Run Vineyards Inc., located in Penn Yan, NY, produces around 26,000 cases of wine per year.

Challenge

Fox Run wanted to improve their sustainability practices in order to minimize their environmental impact. The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP21), paired with the Cornell Enology Extension Laboratory (CEEL), performed an assessment as part of the Environmental Results Program (ERP) Sustainability Initiative to help Fox Run reduce their environmental footprint.

Solutions

As part of the assessment, baseline information was collected regarding water/chemical use, wastewater generation, solid waste, and energy consumption. The team identified potentially viable options to reduce environmental impacts as a result of the assessment and data analysis.

FOX RUN
VINEYARDS

Results

Prior to this project with NYSP2I and CEEL, Fox Run was already engaged in positive practices to decrease the winery's environmental footprint. These practices include:

- Installing a water meter, allowing for careful monitoring of water use.
- Collecting and composting waste solids.
- Using lightweight bottles, meaning less energy and cost to transport product.
- Converting predominantly to solar energy, having installed solar panels in 2015, providing approximately 95% of their total energy use.

The work performed by NYSP2I and CEEL identified other potential Best Management Practices to help reduce environmental impact. Some of the opportunities Fox Run can consider include:

- Expansion of dry cleaning methods and use of lower flow hose nozzles to reduce water/wastewater amounts.
- Potential options to valorize the solid waste as opposed to composting.
- Use of tartrate inhibitors as a potential cost-effective option to manage tartrate crystallization while using less energy.
- Use of wall insulation, adjustment of the in-floor radiant heat system, and use of fans to facilitate cooling to save energy.

Partners



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