

## Backroom Brewery

Backroom Brewery is a boutique farm brewery nestled in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley. They began as an herb farm, growing culinary and medicinal herbs for the garden center trade. The herb farm, Sunflower Cottage, grows 120,000 potted herb plants each spring from seeds and cuttings to sell to other garden centers and to our own customers.

In the fall of 2012, they built their hops field. After all, hops are the herbs that flavor beer! Hops provide the bitter balance to the sweet malt that feeds yeast, which ferments beer. In 2013, they began the process of creating an ordinance in Warren County to accommodate farm breweries. By late spring, the process was complete and Backroom Brewery became the first farm brewery in the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

The first hop harvest in August of 2013 was bountiful. They were brewing in small batches and planning the brewery construction. In the spring of 2014, they began construction and finished their brewery building plus equipment installation by July of 2014. The brewery now offers over 20 recipes, including their popular Lemon Basil Wheat Beer.