

## Location:

32 N. Main Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
[redpumpspirits.com](http://redpumpspirits.com)

## County:

Washington

## Description:

Distillery Expansion



## Red Pump Spirits



## People:

While Washington County's rebels helped incite the historic Whiskey Rebellion, no distilleries had actually crafted their own spirits there since prohibition. So Ed and his wife Judy decided to make a nod to their region's roots: real rye whiskey. Rye spirits are uncommon, because they're more of a challenge to craft. Good thing Ed is a retired chemist. "I've been distilling my whole career— just not for consumption!"

## Progress:

People loved the bold and spicy-but-smooth taste of Red Pump's ryes. The couple wanted to grow their business to meet the demand, but more importantly, they wanted to maintain their top-notch artisan quality as they grew. The Progress Fund helped them finance the equipment they needed to do both.

## Impact:

Judy says their local supplier community feels like a family. "It's as close to a closed-loop system as you can get," Ed said. The couple gets organic grains from a local farm. Once that grain is spent, he shares it with a sheep farmer, whose rare heritage flock traces its ancestry to historic Mount Vernon. That sheep farmer gives Ed and Judy wool to spin into the yarn they use to hand-tag their bottles. Their care and detail produces some Rebellion-worthy spirits, which you can taste in their rustic downtown taproom.

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