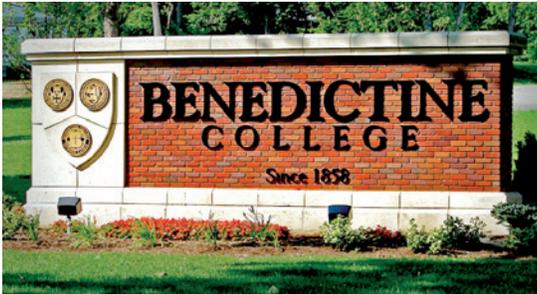


BENEDICTINE COLLEGE, ATCHISON, KANSAS



WATER MANAGER:

Irrigation Management Company LLC

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS:

- IQ-Desktop v. 3.0
- ESP-LXME Series Controllers
- ESP-LXD Decoder Controllers
- 5000 Series Rotors
- 1800 Series Sprays
- PGA Valves
- Flow Sensors

"The Rain Bird IQ system is a perfect fit for the college due to its flexibility for additional stations. With the college's current expansion plan, IQ is enabling the college to implement its entire water management system as time and budget allow."

— Tony Shores
Water Manager, Irrigation Management Company LLC

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Benedictine College is a liberal arts college nestled on the bluffs overlooking the Missouri River in Atchison, Kansas. The campus encompasses several acres and has significant elevation changes. The landscaping is varied, and the irrigation system is comprised of individual controllers, each on its own program.

CHALLENGE:

The college plans to expand its irrigation system as budget dollars become available. To help with future planning and management of the current irrigation system and water use, Tony Shores with the Irrigation Management Company LLC convinced the college to implement IQ-Desktop v. 3.0. IQ and the ESP-LX Series Controllers offered the college and Shores flexible water management features and modular expansion capability.

RESULTS:

Shores utilizes IQ's flow-management features to optimize the irrigation schedules whereby several stations can run simultaneously, which reduces the overall system run time. Flow sensors were installed to monitor flow rates, and if rates exceed a preset threshold, IQ immediately begins trying to identify the problem. If excessive flow is detected on the main line, IQ will shut the system down, preventing water waste and damage to the landscape or structures. E-mail alerts are sent to both Shores and the maintenance company responsible for making repairs.

The ability to expand the irrigation system was critical for the college's future irrigation plans. For this purpose, the ESP-LXD Decoder Controller was chosen for some of the satellite controllers. Using the ESP-LXD, one controller has the capacity to operate 50 to 200 stations as opposed to a traditional wired controller that can only operate up to 48 stations.

Shores uses weather data from an independent weather source to calculate evapotranspiration (ET) rates using IQ's ET Checkbook. He thus has complete control over the irrigation schedule, which helps save water by delivering the precise amount needed based on weather conditions and plant requirements.

"Our main focus is not conserving water per se, but managing the water we do use most effectively. The IQ system allows me to get the most out of the irrigation system and help keep the campus looking the way it should," says Shores. IQ gives Shores the remote access and robust features he needs as the college's water manager to efficiently manage the college's water usage and irrigation system.