

LEGOLAND® California, Carlsbad, Calif.



WATER MANAGER:

Chris Bruchez, Landscaping Supervisor and Irrigation Specialist

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS:

- Maxicom²® Central Control
- WS-PRO2 Weather Station
- PESB-R Reclaimed Commercial Valves
- 1800® Sprays with U-Series Nozzles
- Black Stripe Tubing

“Having a central control system saves us so much time and effort, and it gives us the most efficient, flexible use of our water. It’s very easy now to manage the park’s irrigation needs, and we don’t need to hire a lot of people to make it work.”

— LEGOLAND, Landscaping Supervisor and Irrigation Specialist

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

A family theme park situated in the challenging Southern California climate, LEGOLAND® California features 128 acres of wide-ranging plantings, including more than 6,000 trees. With landscape themes ranging from English garden to tropical, the site’s water manager, Chris Bruchez, must contend with the varying irrigation needs of diverse vegetation, much of it non-native.

CHALLENGE:

Bruchez must care for the varied needs of LEGOLAND California, while accurately controlling water flow, within a short water window. Using reclaimed or recycled water (non-potable) effectively is another challenge at LEGOLAND, where 90 percent of the water used for irrigation is recycled. Reclaimed water has higher levels of chemical content, chlorine and debris. The nature of this treated water has been known to shorten the life expectancy of valves.

SOLUTION:

Linked to an on-site weather station, a Rain Bird® Maxicom²® Central Control allows Bruchez to manage the 25 satellite sites and 14 points of water connection from three central control units. Maximizing the site’s hydraulic capacity and creating efficient irrigation schedules, Maxicom helps LEGOLAND make the most of even the shortest water windows. In addition, the site features more than 1,000 Rain Bird® PESB-R Reclaimed Water Valves specifically constructed to withstand high-chemical levels found in non-potable irrigation systems.

COST AND WATER SAVINGS:

The theme park has used Rain Bird irrigation products since it opened in 1999. Thanks to the system’s efficiency, reliability and ease of use, the park has realized dramatic water and labor savings. Without Maxicom, Bruchez says he would probably need to hire up to three additional full-time irrigation employees. Moreover, Rain Bird reclaimed valves have made a significant difference in the system’s valve life and reliability. Bruchez has found that Rain Bird’s overall responsiveness to any problem takes much of the stress out of his job.