



Dominican University

Natural Resource Savings through DRF's Resource Conservation Solutions Program

Location: River Forest, IL
Facility Size: 30 acres



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
SOLUTIONS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Multi-phase project over two years to eliminate non-essential potable water use.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Cost: \$123,225

Payback Period: < 1 year

Annual Potable Water Savings: 4-6 million gallons

THE TEAM

Dan Bulow • Director of Buildings and Grounds, DU

Dennis Fiddick • Solutions Engineer, DRF

Scott Schnurr • President, DRF

THE NEED

The original goal was to get a well on campus that would eliminate the use and purchase of domestic water for irrigation of grass areas and a soccer field. Further research exposed the need for cooling tower makeup water as well, and the difficult task of bringing in a well large enough for the job.

THE SOLUTION

A campus walk brought the team to an 80,000 gallon cistern which was ultimately reclaimed for capture of rain & ground water. A water level control system was installed in the cistern to achieve automatic well operation. A new pressure controlled pump station, replenishment well and supply lines completed the new highly efficient irrigation system, eliminating potable water use for irrigation and cooling tower makeup water.

THE RESULT

"The project has worked very well. All design factors have been effective," explains Dan Bulow. Dominican University is no longer using potable water for irrigation, providing monumental resource conservation. They look forward to putting the financial savings towards new green initiatives.



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