

Milwaukee County Zoo

Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Developing a Habitat for Water Efficiency

Ranked as one of the top zoos in the nation, the Milwaukee County Zoo features 2,500 animals representing 300 species on 200 acres of spacious parkland in southeastern Wisconsin. Johnson Controls is helping to make animal habitats more energy and water efficient, including cutting the zoo's water use in half (100 million gallons annually). These improvements are expected to save the Zoo approximately \$1.4 million over a 12-year period.

Focus on Magnitude and Measurement

The key to this project's success is the comprehensive approach that was used to determine exactly how much water will be saved through large-scale upgrades to zoo buildings and exhibits. Johnson Controls performed an extensive audit and has installed not just new efficient fixtures and technologies that measure savings, but also provided new approaches to operations and processes – co-authored with Zoo staff – that are making the organization more accountable and effective.

Wasting Water is for the Birds

Some of the innovations include:

- **Putting control valves on drinking trays** in the Aviary Building.
- **Installing low-flow sinks, aerators, toilets and valves** throughout the complex.
- **Turning off water at night** in the Macaque Monkey Island exhibit and for the decorative displays and waterfalls for hippos and giraffes, when not needed.

Save Energy. Save Water.

In addition to water efficiency improvements, part of the Johnson Controls objective for every job is to provide comfortable environments for building occupants, whether it's a rare turtle, a renowned scientist or a 10-year-old visitor. At an institution dedicated to research and education, providing a "double-win" of both energy and water efficiency is important. A combination of high-tech equipment such as high-efficiency boilers in aquatic reptile buildings, energy-efficient lighting in laboratories, and ENERGY STAR® vending machines assures that both humans and animals live, work and play in comfort.