



Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Washington, D.C.

Thanks to Sound Strategy & Rain Bird® Technology, DPR's Turf Irrigation is a Home Run

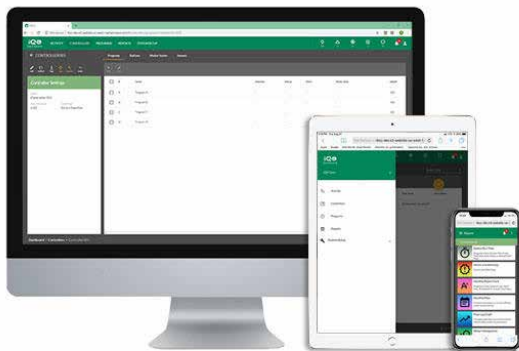
The Washington D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is responsible for maintaining 115 natural turf athletic fields at 75 different sites. These fields are heavily used by community sports and recreation organizations throughout the metropolitan area.

THE CHALLENGE

Without a central control system in place, it is difficult for DPR to monitor and manage its irrigation sites. Because 38 sites have no network or landline access to support remote operation, DPR must send a hired contractor to adjust watering schedules manually. To complicate matters, Operations Program Manager, Derek Schultz, and the DPR team are also facing budgetary constraints that make it difficult to install a system as a lump-sum purchase.

THE SOLUTION:

DPR will use cost-effective Rain Bird products to install a new central control system in phases. The intelligent system will be flexible and modular, allowing DPR to incrementally add to the system as funding permits. This solution will greatly enhance efficiency and maximize the bandwidth of DPR's lean team.



IQ™ Central Control

Core Products Used:

- [IQ™ Central Control](#)
- [4G Cellular Cartridge](#)
- [ESP-LXME2 Controller](#)

KEY OBJECTIVES

- ✓ **Centralize System Control**
- ✓ **Manage Watering Schedules**
- ✓ **Identify an Affordable Solution**



Site Report: **Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Washington, D.C.**

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APPROACH:

Go Wireless

DPR will install Rain Bird **ESP-LXME2 Controllers** upgraded with **IQ NCC 4G Network Communication Cartridges**. These cartridges feature an embedded 4G Cellular Data Modem that allows controllers to communicate as "satellite controllers" without wired or landline access.

Enable Remote Management

The communication cartridge also provides the link between **IQ™ Central Control** and the remote site controllers, which will allow Schultz and his team to control watering schedules from afar. "We can now make automatic scheduling adjustments at these sites without having to physically travel to them," Schultz said. "That's especially helpful when special events are scheduled at the fields."



“ We want this system to be used for years to come. IQ has improved our ability to do more and be more effective—even with our limited resources.

DEREK SCHULTZ
OPERATIONS PROGRAM MANAGER,
WASHINGTON D.C. DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
AND RECREATION



RESULTS:

An Efficient & Economical Solution

In addition to saving DPR staff untold hours of time, **IQ™ Central Control** has also saved vast amounts of water. With irrigation control at their fingertips, the team can fine-tune watering schedules, improve turf coverage, and prevent overwatering. They can also run site reports to ensure that the contractor adjusts watering schedules correctly. Best of all, the phased approach didn't break the bank and DPR can continue to outfit additional sites with smart Rain Bird technology as budgets allow.