

Reflection Garden, City of Aurora, Colorado



Project Details:

LOCATION

Aurora, Colorado

LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

City of Aurora, Aurora Water

END USER

City of Aurora, Aurora Water

RAIN BIRD PRODUCTS USED

- XFS-CV Dripline
- QF Dripline Header
- TLF Fittings
- XCZ-150-PRB-COM Control Zone Kit

“Using QF Dripline Header instead of traditional PVC pipe header allowed us to follow the curves designed into the garden. It also negated the need for extensive pipe cutting and solvent welding of PVC fittings to accommodate the XFS barbed fittings.”

Zach Versluis
Natural Resource Specialist
City of Aurora, Aurora Water

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The City of Aurora, Colorado, recently expanded its five-acre Aurora Water-wise Demonstration Garden at the Aurora Municipal Center to include the Reflection Garden that features a dedicated space for the 7/20 Memorial to honor the victims of the 2012 Aurora theater shooting. The Reflection Garden and 7/20 Memorial provide a peaceful space for the community with artwork, walking paths, and 12 benches to honor each victim’s family.

CHALLENGES:

One of the challenges at the Reflection Garden resulted from the water source being located uphill from the garden. The city planned on using dripline to irrigate the garden and wanted to prevent water from draining out of the dripline each time the irrigation cycle turned off. Low-point drainage wastes water and can overwater plants located at the lowest point. The second challenge was how to make the installation of the supply header easier and faster along the curved walkways. If the installation team used a traditional PVC header they would spend a lot of time making cuts and gluing many pieces of PVC and fittings to follow the curves.

RESULTS:

To help solve those challenges the city chose two Rain Bird drip irrigation products. First, the XFS-CV Dripline helped solve the drainage issue. This innovative dripline features a special emitter with built-in 4.3 psi check valve to prevent low-point drainage and a patented copper shield to prevent root intrusion in subsurface installations. The check valves keep the dripline charged with water in elevation changes up to 10 feet.

The QF Dripline Header offered the city a flexible solution for the supply header. Made from flexible polyethylene tubing, the QF Dripline Header features preinstalled, 360-degree rotating elbows used to attach the dripline. Instead of cutting and gluing PVC pipe, the installation crew simply rolled out a coil of QF Dripline Header against the curved pathways and attached the dripline laterals. Using the rotating elbows, the installation team could easily adjust the lateral lines to ensure the proper lateral spacing.

The city also installed a Rain Bird drip control zone kit that features a 1.5-inch PESB valve with two pressure-regulating, quick-check basket filters. The control zone kit accommodates large commercial drip zones with a 15 to 40 gpm flow rate.