

# Rice University

# Water Year in Review 2022



*Prepared by the Administrative Center for Sustainability & Energy Management*

Rice University continues to incorporate sustainable practices into campus operations. Since 2019, ACSEM has been installing water sub-meters around campus on buildings, irrigation systems, plant processes, and reuse water sources to monitor consumption and detect leaks. As a result, the campus has been able to save almost double the initial cost of the meters themselves while providing more reliable data regarding campus water usage.

## New Water Meter Installations

1. Anderson-Clarke Center Irrigation
2. Anderson Biology Lab
3. Brockman Hall for Opera
4. George R. Brown Tennis Center
5. Holistic Garden
6. Intramural Field Irrigation
7. Jones College Fountain
8. Kraft Hall
9. Library Service Center Irrigation
10. New Sid Richardson College
11. North Plant Air Handler Condensate
12. Football Practice Field Irrigation
13. Wiess President's House Irrigation
14. Reckling Park
15. The Roost at Reckling Park
16. Sewall Hall Dewatering Pump 1
17. Sewall Hall Dewatering Pump 2
18. Stadium – Northeast
19. Stadium – Northwest
20. Stadium – South
21. Stadium – Southeast
22. Stadium – Southwest
23. Ley Track and Holloway Field

## Quick Facts

- Identified 63 leaks around campus
- Changed operating procedure for both cooling towers, saving 1.5 million gallons and \$23,000 annually
- Awarded 100% of cooling tower evaporation credits from the City of Houston, a savings of \$643,000
- Launched Phase I of the Irrigation Smart Controller project, which includes 16 smart controllers that cover roughly 30% of campus (including the North Colleges zone, Founder's Court, Entrance 1, and Entrance 3)
- Collected 96,000 gallons of rainwater for irrigation in cistern adjacent to Sid Richardson College
- Presented Rice water meter dashboards to energy managers from across Texas, as well as to personnel from Johnson Space Center

Rice University consumed 242 million gallons of water in 2022 compared to 259 million gallons in 2019,

**a 6.5%  
reduction**



**Rice captured 8,225,000 gallons of HVAC condensate from campus buildings for reuse in our cooling towers. That's enough to fill 12.5 Olympic-sized swimming pools!**