



Minnesota Zoo, Apple Valley

Erin Maxson

Chemical Engineering, University of Minnesota, Duluth

Michelle Gage, MnTAP Advisor

Organization

The Minnesota Zoo is an Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited zoological garden that cares for 533 different species of animal.

Intern Project

Study water usage zoo wide and implement new practices and equipment to reduce the amount of water consumed.

Incentives to Change

The Minnesota Zoo has created a sustainability plan to decrease total zoo water usage by 15% by the year 2025.



Minnesota Technical
Assistance Program

Solutions

Implement a Filtration System onto the Gibbon Pond

Reduce the number of dump and fills required by improving water quality and increasing circulation of the pond.

Convert Cooling Water to a Closed System Loop

Continuously reuse the cooling water on the distribution pumps in the heating building by reducing the temperature between loops.

Install Solenoid Valves on all Dump and Fill Ponds

Cut down on opportunity for dump and fill ponds to be forgotten and left to overfill by installing timed solenoid valves.

