

In harmony with nature



The conflicts between humanity and nature living with each other seem to be accumulating. W&A Engineering managed a project where both humans and nature got their space: the revision of a pond right next to the construction of an outdoor amphitheatre. The technicians used the GeoMax Zoom90 robotic total station to measure the topographic details.

Planning for growth

Humanity is developing, incredible technologies are being discovered, and people are connected like never before. What seemed to be impossible many years ago is now a reality.

As the human population increases, our use of land for living space becomes more important. Planners have to create designs that harmonise both building projects and nature.

In Athens, Georgia, USA the county was faced with an expensive and the imminent issue with a decommissioned pond that was once a part of their potable water infrastructure. The dam was failing and needed to be fixed. This gave W&A Engineering the opportunity to suggest a win-win

for the county and the development group – a suggestion would create an opportunity for harmonising development with nature.

Big plans...

The development group purchased and adjacent 93-acre parcel and had plans to build a 10,000-seat outdoor music venue on the site but was struggling to maintain the integrity of the design and also meet the required stormwater regulations due to challenging topographic and spacial conditions.

W&A brought the Athens Clarke County Government, the region's economic development department and the development team together to seal a deal that would ensure that the design integrity would be maintained, the issue with the failing dam would be addressed with private sector dollars and additional commercial land would be available for increasing tax base around the amphitheatre.



W&A Engineering is a growing multidisciplinary engineering firm with headquarters in Athens, Georgia, US. Known for its innovative design, efficient engineering, and professional services W&A is the trusted partner of community leaders and developers driving sustainable growth throughout the United States.

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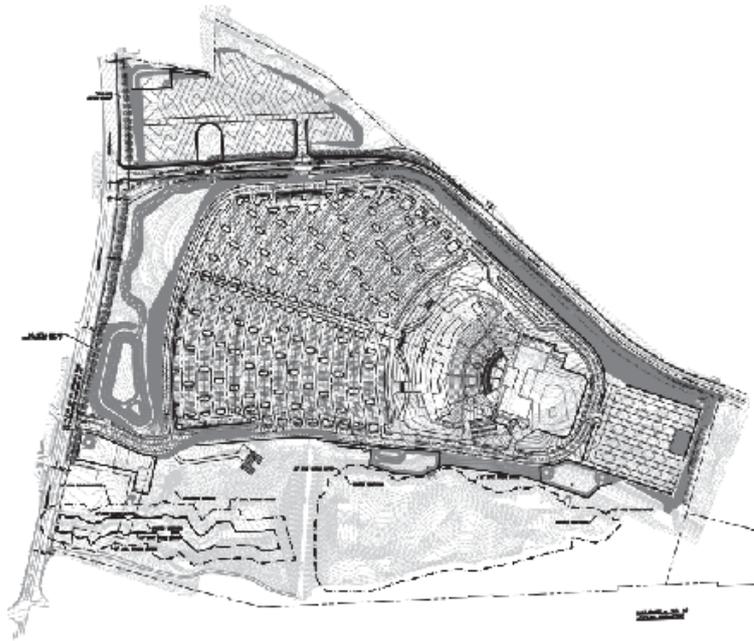
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By acquiring the pond parcel the engineers at W&A could work more with the natural systems and topography to provide the required water quality and quantity treatment in an otherwise undevelopable area while at the same time addressing the dam safety issue. "Any time you can work more with the contours of the land you can better protect and preserve natural ecosystems", said Jon Williams, CEO of W&A Engineering.

...need powerful tools

W&A Engineering performed a survey in order to get the topographic detail of the dam and measurements of the pond. The position data was collected with the GeoMax Zenius5 field controller and the Zoom90 total station that were recommended by the team at Construction Laser, a GeoMax measuring product supplier.

The fully operational robotic total station stands out with its extended reflectorless measurement capability, as well as its active prism acquisition and tracking.



Construction Laser showcased these features, which in turn became the selling points for W&A Engineering.

"The Zoom90 is able to track and measure to a prism held in a boat," says Mark Dunlap RLS, Partner/Director of Surveying at W&A. Another reason why the company chose the GeoMax total station was its ability to make accurate reflectorless measurements as needed.

With the Zoom90, W&A Engineering managed to handle even the biggest challenges: accurate measurements of the pond at the edge of the water (where the brush is thick), and accurate elevations at the bottom of the pond- resulting in an accurate volume.

The party can begin

Thanks to the W&A surveying and engineering team the dam is no longer an issue for the community, the natural ecosystems will be protected and restored as much as possible and the county will get a boost in its tax base.

As soon as the amphitheatre is complete the party can start and be sure you will find the W&A team in their boogie shoes at centre stage!

"We have been partners with GeoMax since the beginning. The quality and flexibility of the products they produce gives me the confidence to go up against anything in the market place, but what really stands out about them is they care about our customers as much as we do"

~Stephen Bridges V.P., Construction Laser Inc.

