Custom Home in Austin, Texas, Relies on Latest Drip Technology

PROJECT OVERVIEW:
In Austin, Texas, the owners of a custom-built home on a large, 1.5-acre lot installed a drip irrigation system that uses water from rainwater collection to irrigate a mix of hardy, drought-tolerant native shrubs, flowering plants and grass. The owners hired Sagebrush Landscaping to design the landscaping and Pentecost Sprinkler Systems to design and install the irrigation system.

CHALLENGES:
The irrigation system is fed by a 31,000-gallon rainwater collection tank. During the hottest and driest part of the year, the plant watering requirement needed to be met using only the water from the collection tank. While this was the most critical requirement for both the landscaping and irrigation design, the house is also located on top of a hill, and the owners were concerned about runoff and drainage issues.

RESULTS:
The property owners chose drip irrigation for all their landscaping. Pentecost and Texas Irrigation Supply recommended using the XFS-CV Dripline, which features the latest in dripline technology. The XFS-CV can be used on the surface to irrigate shrubs and plants and can be installed below the surface to irrigate the lawn. The XFS-CV has a special emitter that uses Copper Shield Technology, which prohibits root intrusion into the emitter, which prevents clogging. The dripline emitters also have built-in, heavy-duty check valves to prevent low-point drainage. The check valves help save water by keeping the dripline charged with water on slopes with elevation changes of up to 10 feet.

The contractor also chose the QF Dripline Header as the supply header. During installation, instead of cutting and gluing PVC and fittings together, the crew simply rolled out the flexible header and attached the dripline to the pre-installed, 360-degree rotating elbows. The QF Header reduces installation time and ensures that dripline row spacing is uniform.

End users are often concerned that they won’t be able to tell when a drip system is on. The Drip Operation Indicator solves this problem. When the system is on, the stem of the indicator rises to provide a clear visual signal it has reached 20 psi, indicating that water is flowing.

Using the XFS-CV Dripline to irrigate their landscaping, the McGehees can water their entire property using only the rainwater they collect, even during the highest-demand season.

"After seeing all the compelling advantages, we decided to go with drip irrigation for everything including all the sodded areas as well," said the McGehee’s. “Bill and Jeff worked hand-in-hand every step of the way to ensure we got the absolute best components for the job.”

John and Jane McGehee
Homeowners