

Athletic Business®

JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2026

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RECOVERY

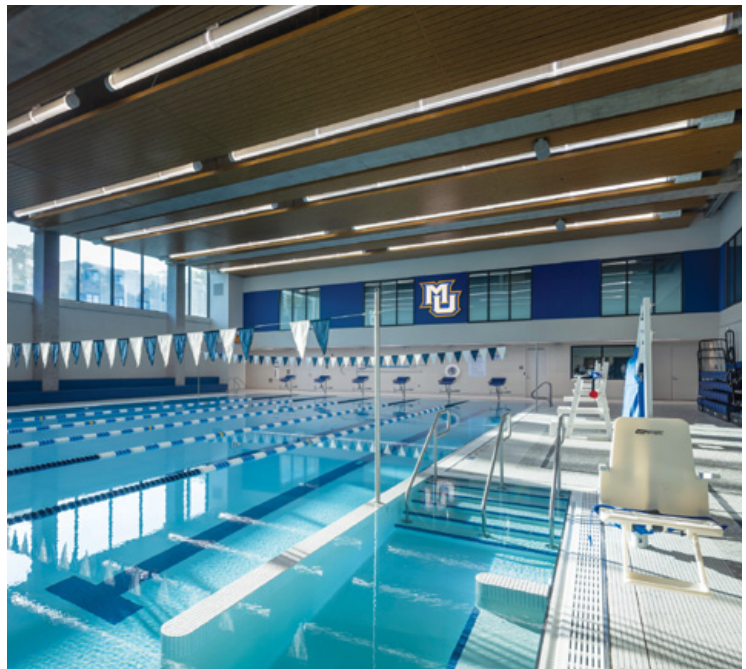
CARDIO

SPORTS COMPLEXES



FROM Olympic-caliber competition venues to welcoming recreational destinations, the 42 aquatic facilities in this year's Aquatic Design Portfolio demonstrate the breadth of innovation shaping the industry. Spread across high schools, colleges, community centers, waterparks and hospitality properties, each project reflects current thinking on how aquatic spaces can serve athletes and casual swimmers alike. These pages showcase the creative solutions designers are bringing to the challenge of delivering performance, wellness and enjoyment.

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Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

MARQUETTE WELLNESS AND HELFAER RECREATION CENTER MILWAUKEE, WIS.

The Wellness + Helfaer Recreation Facility is a transformative 195,000-square-foot addition to Marquette University, enhancing student life with a 25% increase in recreational space and nearly double the wellness and medical facilities. Funded through a mix of university capital and external partnerships, the facility reflects a strong commitment to campus health and wellness. A \$300 annual student recreation and wellness fee also supported the redevelopment. WTI collaborated with the project architect to deliver a key feature: the new indoor natatorium. Replacing the university's aging 50-year-old pool, the six-lane, 25-yard multipurpose pool supports lap swimming, water aerobics and recreational use. Advanced filtration, temperature control and lighting systems create a comfortable and efficient aquatics environment. Marquette president Kimo Ah Yun described the facility as a destination that supports physical and mental health, fosters inclusiveness and encourages community engagement. By integrating fitness, wellness and medical services under one roof, the Wellness + Helfaer Recreation Facility stands as a bold investment in holistic student wellbeing and a vibrant campus future.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: HOK

AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.

COST: \$26 million

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 195,000

OCCUPANCY: January 2025

COMPONENTS

- Lap pool

SUPPLIERS

Colorado Time Systems
Scoreboards/Timing Systems

Competitor Swim
Lane Markers

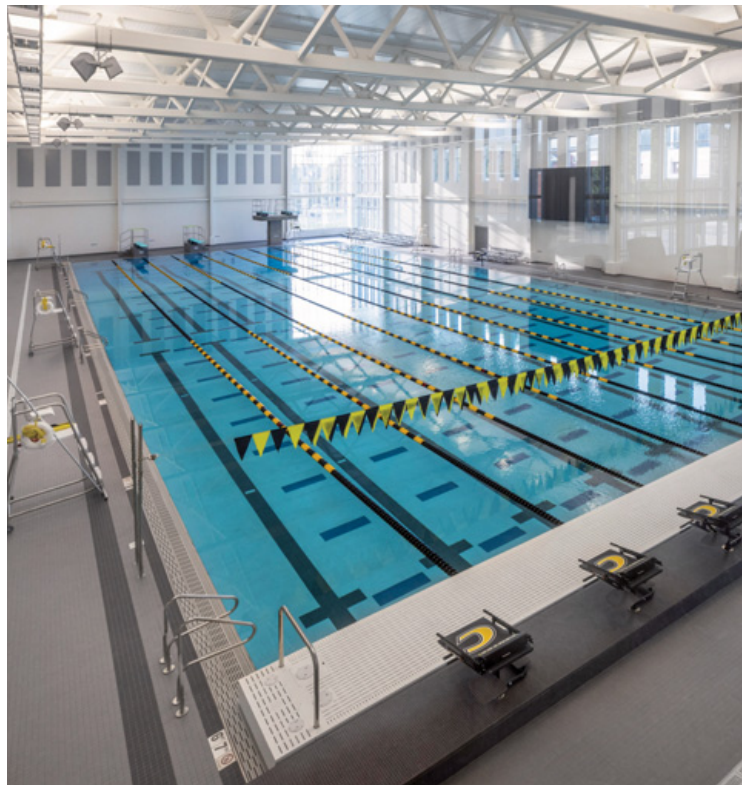
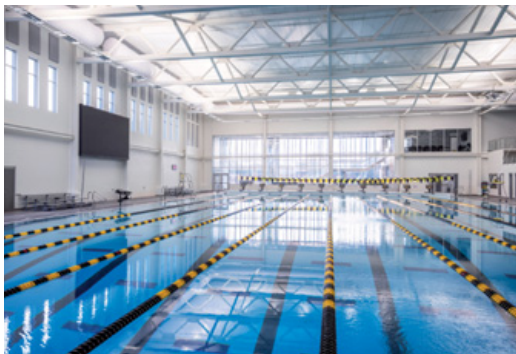
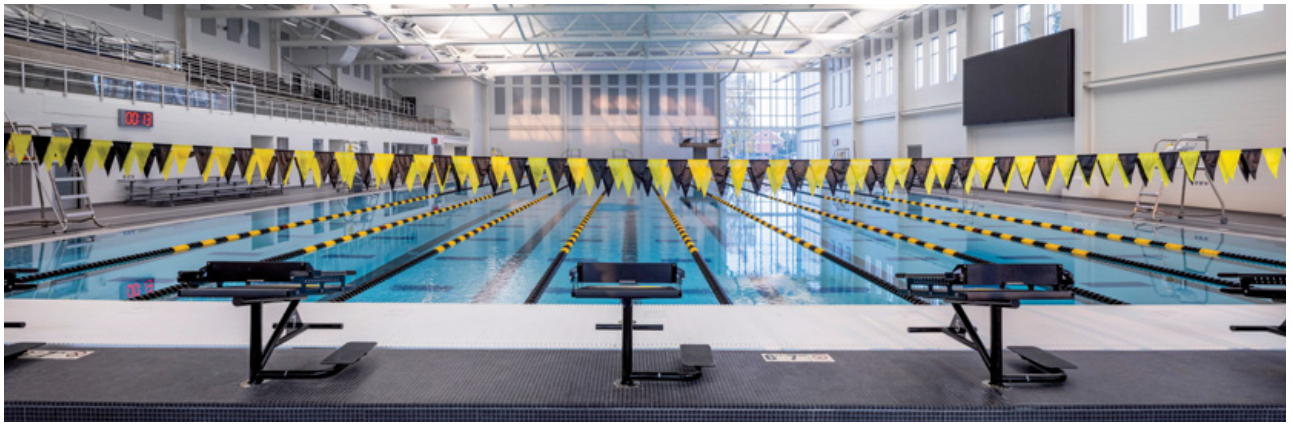
Fluidra/S.R.Smith
ADA Lifts

Hussey Seating Company
Bleachers

Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems, Sanitization Systems

Paddock Pool Equipment Company
Gutters

Spectrum Aquatics
Starting Blocks, Basketball Hoops



Photos courtesy of MSA Sport

CENTRE COLLEGE INITIATIVE FOR WELLNESS & ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE DANVILLE, KY.

The Centre College Initiative for Wellness and Athletic Excellence represents a more than \$55 million transformation redefining the southern edge of the historic campus. Anchoring this visionary project is the 50-meter Olympic Natatorium — a light-filled, state-of-the-art facility designed to elevate both athletic performance and campus wellness. The natatorium's architecture expresses transparency and movement, with expansive glazing that floods the pool deck with natural light while offering visual connections to surrounding athletics fields and landscapes. Inside, the 750-seat spectator gallery is positioned to create an intimate yet grand environment for competition, training and recreation. Beneath its soaring roof structure, the aquatics hall integrates advanced mechanical and filtration systems, precision timing technology, and sustainable design strategies that ensure optimal comfort and energy efficiency. The natatorium seamlessly connects to adjacent fitness and wellness spaces, encouraging daily use by athletes and the student body alike. Surrounding this centerpiece are complementary athletic venues — a 70,000-square-foot indoor field house, a new strength and wellness center, and Andy Frye Stadium — each unified by a cohesive design language of clarity, performance and tradition. Together, they form a contemporary gateway that celebrates Centre College's enduring pursuit of excellence through design and sport.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: MSA Sport
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$3.5 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 24,500
OCCUPANCY: June 2024

COMPONENTS

- Competition pool
- Gallery seating for 750

SUPPLIERS

BECS Technology
Chemical Control Systems
Colorado Time Systems
Scoreboards/Timing Systems
Competitor Swim
Lane Markers

Paddock Pool Equipment
*Bulkheads, Filtration Systems,
 Gutters, Ladders/Grab Bars*
Spectrum Aquatics
*ADA Lifts, Ladders/Grab Bars, Lane
 Markers, Starting Blocks*



MEMORIAL PARK POOL CALDWELL, IDAHO

Following four summers without its beloved pool, the City of Caldwell proudly celebrated the grand re-opening of the Caldwell Memorial Pool in May 2025. The original facility, open since the 1970s, was forced to close in 2021 after safety inspections revealed electrical issues and leaks. WTI partnered with ALSC Architects to reimagine and restore this cherished community amenity. Despite construction cost challenges and logistical hurdles, the \$9.5 million project delivered a completely revitalized facility that honors the site's legacy while meeting modern standards. The new 5,000-square-foot bathhouse, renovated pool and updated mechanical systems reestablish the Caldwell Memorial Pool as a source of community pride. City of Caldwell mayor Jarom Wagoner, who swam at the original pool as a child, described the renovation as a "bridge between the city's past and future." Within nearly the same aquatics footprint, the redesign introduced eight regulation-length lap lanes, enabling official outdoor swim meets for the first time in Caldwell's history. Additional amenities include two waterslides, a diving board and an Aqua Zip'n attraction, while varied depths support recreation, fitness and fun for all ages, restoring the Caldwell Memorial Pool as a vibrant community destination.



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: ALSC Architects
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$9.5 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 9,220 (water surface area)
OCCUPANCY: May 2025

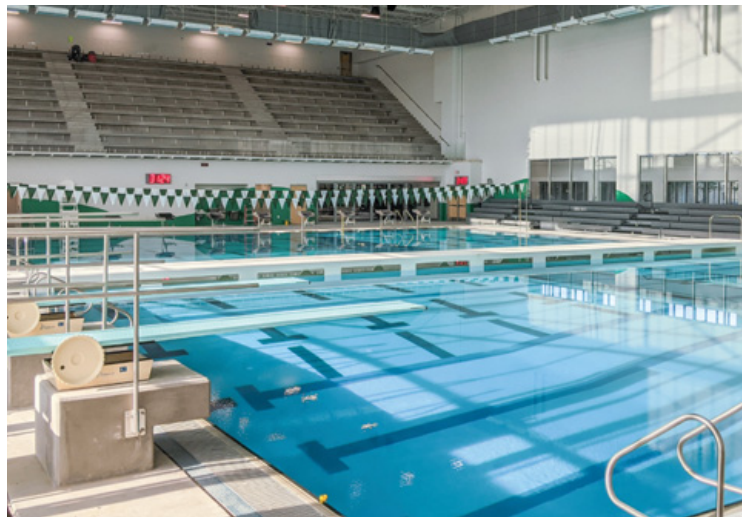
COMPONENTS

- Lap pool
- Two waterslides
- Aqua Zip'n feature
- Diving board
- Bathhouse

SUPPLIERS

Aqua Creek Products
 ADA Lifts
BECS Technology
 Chemical Control Systems
Competitor Swim
 Lane Markers
Fluidra/S.R.Smith
 Starting Blocks

Neptune Benson/Xylem
 Filtration Systems, Gutters,
 Sanitization Systems
Poolside Adventures
 Water Play Features
Spectrum Aquatics
 Diving Boards



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

MONAHANS HIGH SCHOOL NATATORIUM MONAHANS, TEXAS

The Monahans High School Natatorium stands as a centerpiece of the Monahans-Wickett-Pyote Independent School District's transformation, made possible through a \$140 million bond referendum approved in 2019. The new facility reflects the district's commitment to educational and athletic excellence. The 7,546-square-foot competition pool features a 10-lane, 25-meter pool and a 12-lane, 25-yard cross course. It also includes a 5-foot movable bulkhead and two 1-meter diving boards. The bulkhead allows flexible configurations for simultaneous training and events. A fully integrated electronic timing system supports competitive swimming and diving meets. Designed to serve both students and the broader community, the natatorium includes seating for 500 spectators, modern locker rooms and administrative offices to enhance the athlete and staff experience. It functions not only as a training hub for district programs but also as a venue for hosting regional competitions and community events.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: Parkhill
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$140 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 7,546
OCCUPANCY: July 2023

COMPONENTS

- Competition pool with movable bulkhead
- Integrated electronic timing system
- Two 1-meter diving boards
- Spectator seating for 500
- Administrative offices

SUPPLIERS

BECS Technology
Chemical Control Systems
Colorado Time Systems
Scoreboards/Timing Systems
Competitor Swim
Lane Markers

Fluidra/S.R.Smith
ADA Lifts
Neptune Benson/Xylem
Circulation Pumps, Filtration Systems, Gutters, Sanitization Systems
Spectrum Aquatics
Ladders/Grab Bars, Starting Blocks



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

CHENEY AQUATIC CENTER CHENEY, WASH.

Located in a public park, Cheney Aquatic Center is set to become a vibrant hub for recreation and community connection. Following years of planning, construction on the \$12.4 million project began in summer 2024. The 5,313-square-foot leisure pool features zero-depth entry and interactive elements, including a river with a vortex, a nature-themed island and spray features. Basketball hoops and an obstacle course promote skill-building and keep guests entertained, while a waterslide tower offers two unique experiences. A six-lane, 25-yard lap pool includes starting blocks and a diving area to support both lap swimming and short-course competitions. Complementing these traditional amenities, a climbing wall and Aqua Zip'n add extra excitement. The 5,000-square-foot bathhouse and a community meeting room further establish this as a true gathering place. With sustainability woven into thoughtful details — from xeriscape landscaping to regenerative media filtration — the facility reflects a long-term investment in both people and the environment.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: NAC Architecture
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$12.4 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 3,455 (lap pool), 5,313 (leisure pool), 5,000 (bathhouse), 500 (meeting room)
OCCUPANCY: July 2025

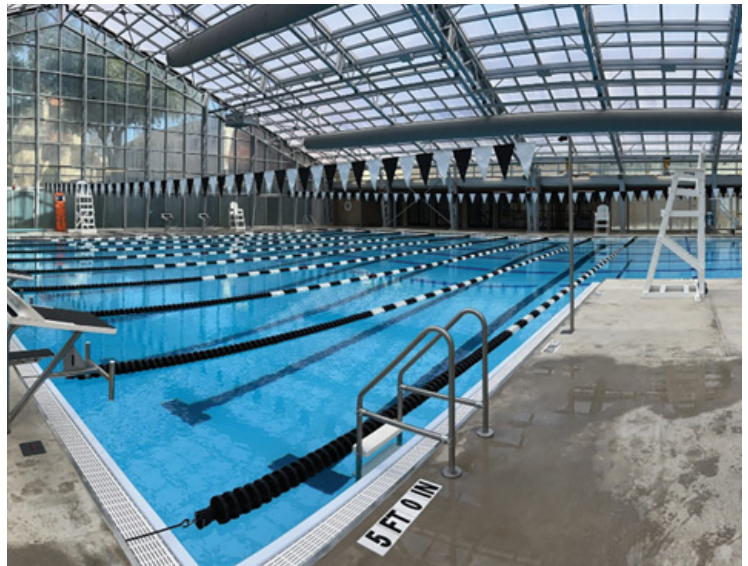
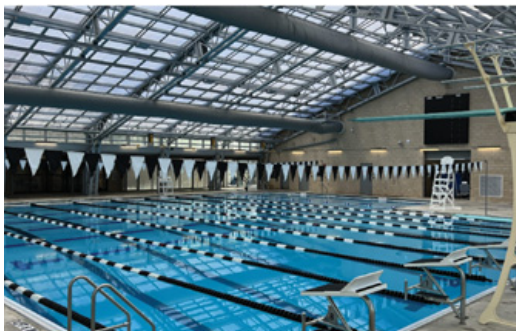
COMPONENTS

- Competition pool
- Diving boards
- Climbing wall
- Spray features
- Waterslides
- Aqua Zip'n feature
- Basketball hoop
- Bathhouse with community meeting room

SUPPLIERS

Aqua Creek Products
 ADA Lifts
Competitor Swim
 Lane Markers
Chemtrol
 Chemical Control Systems
Fluidra/S.R.Smith
 Ladders/Grab Bars, Basketball Hoop
Myrtha Pools
 Deck/Basin Surface

Neptune Benson/Xylem
 Filtration Systems, Sanitization Systems
Poolside Adventures
 Water Play Features
Spectrum Aquatics
 Starting Blocks
Splashtacular
 Water Play Features, Waterslides



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

MESQUITE ISD AQUATIC CENTER MESQUITE, TEXAS

The City of Mesquite proudly unveiled the renovated Mesquite ISD Natatorium — a modern aquatics amenity born from a unique partnership between the Mesquite Independent School District, Dallas College and the City of Mesquite. Originally built in the 1970s as an outdoor recreational pool, the aging structure no longer met the needs of the growing community or its competitive swim programs. The renovated natatorium features a versatile competition pool serving students and the broader community alike. Using Myrtha Pools RenovAction technology, the refurbishment accomplished a brand-new, state-of-the-art pool, all while preserving the existing pool shell and saving on total construction costs. Now suitable for two courses, the pool features six 25-meter lanes, eight 25-yard lanes, diving boards and a shallow training area for skill-building. Serving Mesquite ISD swim teams, the natatorium also supports swim lessons, fitness and recreational programming. OpenAire's transparent aluminum structure surrounding the space allows for year-round operations while opening to fresh air and sunlight during favorable weather. Honored with the 2024 ENR Texas & Louisiana Best Project Award in K-12 Education, the natatorium stands as a model of innovation, collaboration and community impact.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: WRA Architects
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$9.7 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 13,580
OCCUPANCY: February 2024

COMPONENTS

- Competition pool
- Diving boards

SUPPLIERS

BECS Technology
Chemical Control Systems
Myrtha Pools
Gutters, Basin Surface RenovAction

Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems, Sanitization Systems
OpenAire
Enclosures



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

BYRNES AQUATIC CENTER WATERLOO, IOWA

Originally constructed in 1980, the beloved Byrnes Park Pool was a treasured community amenity for over 40 years. After closing in 2019 due to a leak, the City of Waterloo saw an opportunity to reimagine aquatics at Byrnes Park. In partnership with a feasibility consultant and WTI, an in-depth evaluation in 2020 revealed structural and mechanical challenges with the aging 50-meter pool. Following community input and thoughtful planning, the vision for a new, accessible aquatics center came to life. With a \$6.5 million budget secured through grants and donations, WTI led full aquatics planning, design and engineering alongside the architect and project team. The new Byrnes Aquatic Center features a zero-depth entry play area with interactive spray elements, a circular pool with basketball hoops, and a four-lane lap pool with a deep end and 1-meter diving board. A small current channel supports resistance and assisted walking, while a winding body slide splashes into a dedicated splashdown pool. Shaded deck and seating areas offer comfort and space for gathering. This revitalized facility stands as a testament to community collaboration and a commitment to equitable access, providing a vibrant, family-friendly destination for generations to come.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: INVISION Architects
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$19.8 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 7,200 (water surface area)
OCCUPANCY: June 2024

COMPONENTS

- Lap pool
- 1-meter diving board
- Play area with spray elements
- Circular pool with basketball hoops
- Current channel
- Winding body slide
- Splashdown pool

SUPPLIERS

Competition Swim
Lane Markers

Paddock Pool Equipment Company
*Filtration Systems, Gutters, Ladders/
 Grab Bars*

POOLCORP Commercial Aquatics
Flowmeters, Float Valves, Tiling

Sentry Aquatic Innovation
Heaters, Water Level Controllers

Speck Pumps
Pumps

Spectrum Aquatics
ADA Lifts, Basketball Hoops

Splashtacular
Waterslides



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK YAKIMA, WASH.

In June 2025, the City of Yakima celebrated the grand opening of the Aquatic Center at Martin Luther King Jr. Park — a vibrant facility shaped by grassroots advocacy and public-private collaboration. The dream to restore outdoor aquatics access began in 2017 and culminated in a \$9.75 million project supported by the city, Yakima County, the Washington State Legislature and generous donations — including \$500,000 from OIC of Washington and \$225,000 from the Yakima Valley Community Foundation. The center blends recreation, safety and innovation. It features two lifestyle pools, a 5,300-square-foot pool building and attractions for all ages. Highlights include zero-depth entry, geysers, waterfalls, lap lanes, basketball hoops, a Ninja Climb and the thrilling Aqua Zip'n rope swing. A slide complex adds even more fun. Prioritizing accessibility, the center offers swim lessons, water safety classes, shaded seating and gathering spaces.



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: NAC Architecture
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$9.75 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 4,173 (leisure pool), 3,832 (activity pool)
OCCUPANCY: June 2025

COMPONENTS

- Two lifestyle pools
- Ninja Climb
- Slide complex
- Basketball hoops
- Aqua Zip'n feature
- Waterslides
- Water play features

SUPPLIERS

Chemtrol
Chemical Control Systems
Competitor Swim
Lane Markers
Fluidra/S.R.Smith
Water Play Features
Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems

POOLCORP Commercial Aquatics
ADA Lifts, Pool Vacuum, Heaters, Chemical Controllers
Poolside Adventures
Water Play Features
Spashtacular
Waterslides
Spectrum Aquatics
Ladders/Grab Bars, Water Play Features



YMCA OF MUNCIE MUNCIE, IND.



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

After years of planning and collaboration, the City of Muncie proudly opened a state-of-the-art YMCA facility in March 2025, marking a transformative investment in wellness, recreation and neighborhood revitalization. Located near Muncie Central High School, the facility anchors the McKinley-Whitely Live Learn Neighborhood initiative and replaces the aging Northwest YMCA. The \$31 million project was funded through a mix of public and private support, including \$1 million in READI funding. The 4,355-square-foot competition pool features eight 25-yard lanes with starting platforms and two 1-meter diving boards, offering a dedicated space for Muncie Central High School's swim team and regional meets. The 1,819-square-foot wellness pool includes a zero-depth-entry play area with interactive spray features, ramping to deeper water with a volleyball net, basketball hoop, and open space for water aerobics and training. Beyond aquatics, the center includes a sauna, a gymnasium, a health clinic and flexible community spaces. The facility provides year-round aquatics access, youth programs, health services and inclusive design — serving as a vibrant hub for connection, enrichment and lifelong wellness in Muncie.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: Elevatus Architecture
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$31 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 6,174 (water surface area)
OCCUPANCY: March 2025

COMPONENTS

- Competition pool
- 1-meter diving boards
- Starting blocks
- Spray features
- Basketball hoop
- Volleyball net

SUPPLIERS

Competitor Swim
Lane Markers

Fluidra/S.R.Smith
Basketball Hoops

Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems

Paddock Pool Equipment Company
Gutters

Spectrum Aquatics
ADA Lifts, Diving Boards, Starting Blocks



UPPER ARLINGTON AQUATIC CENTER UPPER ARLINGTON, OHIO

The City of Upper Arlington proudly opened the Bob Crane Community Center in 2025 — a transformative, five-story, 165,000-square-foot destination designed to unite the community. The \$85 million project was funded through municipal bonds and over \$8 million in private donations via the Upper Arlington Community Foundation, reflecting a shared commitment to multigenerational wellness and civic life. At the heart of the center is a year-round aquatics facility. The 4,479-square-foot leisure pool features four lap lanes, a zero-depth-entry play area, open water for recreation and fitness, plus engaging amenities such as a basketball hoop and a waterslide — all within a single, flexible body of water. Beyond recreation, the center also integrates wellness partnerships. The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center leases space for physical therapy, integrative health and its Exercise is Medicine program — bridging clinical care with community health. Sustainable design elements, including rooftop solar panels, reinforce the center's future-focused mission. The Bob Crane Community Center stands as a vibrant symbol of Upper Arlington's investment in connection, inclusion and lifelong enrichment.



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: MSA Design
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$85 million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 4,479
OCCUPANCY: May 2025

COMPONENTS

- Leisure pool with lap lanes and zero-depth entry play area
- Basketball hoop
- Waterslide

SUPPLIERS

BECS Technology
Chemical Control Systems

Competitor Swim
Lane Markers

Fluidra/S.R.Smith
ADA Lifts, Basketball Hoops

Hussey Seating Company
Bleachers

Paddock Pool Equipment Company
Gutters

Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems, Sanitization Systems

Splashtacular
Waterslides



SCHEELS AIM HIGH BIG SKY AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTER GREAT FALLS, MONT.

Aim High Big Sky Aquatics and Recreation Center brings a revitalized aquatics experience to Great Falls. In 2018, the city's aging recreation center and natatorium were in disrepair. The new project broke ground in September 2021. The facility features an outdoor splashpad and two indoor pools: an eight-lane, 25-yard competition pool equipped with an underwater speaker system and a 2,384 square-foot lifestyle pool with zero-depth entry, a current channel, interactive water features and a waterslide. The competition pool will serve MAFB's aquatics training needs, supporting pilot water survival training. Sustainability was a key focus, with energy modeling guiding the design. The center incorporates LED lighting, advanced heat recovery and high-efficiency HVAC systems to reduce operational costs. Aim High Big Sky has become a vital community hub for recreation, fitness and military training.



Photos courtesy of Water Technology Inc.

QUICK FACTS

LEAD ARCHITECT: L'Heureux Page Werner PC
AQUATIC DESIGN CONSULTANT: Water Technology Inc.
COST: \$20 Million
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 7,575 (water surface area)
OCCUPANCY: July 2024

COMPONENTS

- Competition pool
- Waterslide
- Interactive water features
- Splashpad
- Current channel

SUPPLIERS

BECS Technology
Chemical Control Systems
Competitor Swim
Lane Markers
Neptune Benson/Xylem
Filtration Systems, Sanitization Systems

Spectrum Aquatics
ADA Lifts, Ladders/Grab Bars, Starting Blocks
Splashtacular
Waterslides