



COLUMBUS ZOO Powell, OH

CHALLENGE

In 2006, the City of Columbus announced plans to invest \$22 million to substantially re-develop and renovate what was formerly Wyandot Lake water park and incorporate it as part of The Columbus Zoo. Owned and operated by the city, the new Zoombezi Bay Water Park beginning a series of updates that would span over the next decade, introducing state-of-the-art attractions and amenities and incorporating zoo theming throughout.

SOLUTION

2008 Columbus Zoo chose ADG, to renovate, design and build a newly branded “Zoombezi Bay” waterpark. Featuring \$20 million worth of new attractions including: three new water slide complexes, a new 544,000 gallon “Wild Tides” wave pool, and a 1.5 million gallon action river called “Roaring Rapids”.

2011 After three successful seasons of operation at Zoombezi Bay, park operators decided to expand the waterpark. ADG designed and built the new area to include two new slides, a 45’ uphill water coaster, and the first Boomerango Express half-pipe tube slide.

2014 Zoombezi Bay wanted to replace an old AquaPlay RainFortress that was carried over from Wyandot waterpark with a \$4.5 million “Baboon Lagoon” children’s area. ADG designed and built the expansion to feature nine children’s water slides, 90+ interactive water play features, and a giant 1,000 gallon dumping bucket, earning “Best New Product in Themed Exhibit Design” from IAAPA.

2018 Looking to further expand capacity with more place to relax, more slides and more interactive play, Columbus Zoo called upon ADG for the fourth time to create “Otter Banks” active play area. ADG designed Otter Banks around their Adventure Lagoon® water ride which features a 2,500 sqft activity pool with basketball area, 3 waterfalls, in-water seating, a 1,800 sqft obstacle course and two 26’ drop slides.

RESULT

Zoombezi Bay, a 22.7 acre water park, currently ranks as one of the Midwest’s most popular city owned and operated water parks, attracting more than 400,000 visitors annually.

“We have been pleased to work with ADG when we have looked for ways to expand our water park. We are very excited about the new Otter Banks expansion to our park and are also proud of the other projects’ successes.”

-John Gannon, General Manager

