

Stephen Smith

Chairman, Aqua Engineering, Inc.



In 1975, Stephen Smith left a research position at Colorado State University to pursue an interest in water. His degrees and research post in agricultural engineering, coupled with an itch to apply engineering principles to enhance the beauty of the land, led him to irrigation.

The challenged he faced was to take the principles of irrigation for agriculture and turn them into solutions for urban irrigation. He discovered a niche and the result was Aqua Engineering, Inc. The company began by designing irrigation systems for commercial projects and small parks, and soon built an expertise by understanding the practical, down-to-earth realities. Within five years, Aqua Engineering was designing irrigation systems not only in Colorado, California and Texas, but as far away as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar.

Today, Aqua Engineering continues to provide innovative water solutions to a diverse clientele. The approach to excellence in solving irrigation challenges has earned Aqua Engineering a reputation for pioneering innovations with the irrigation industry. They provide their clients with a competitive advantage by applying state-of-the-art technologies to their designs. Stephen believes the value of Aqua Engineering is not only measured in the contribution to the design team, which is composed of landscape architects, civil engineers, farmers and irrigation districts, it is also measured by their contribution to the environment. "Most of our founders were raised on farms and



developed a deep respect for the land, as well as a keen understanding of the value of water. This respect and knowledge can be seen today through the innovative water solutions that our engineers apply to each and every project." Stephen is president-elect of the Irrigation Association and has served on the IA board since November 2005. He is past president of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants.