



# CASE STUDY

## Mercy Hospital Fort Smith

### PROJECT AT A GLANCE

**27,847**

Total CCF Savings per Year

**\$8,761**

Estimated Natural Gas Savings per Year

**6,878,232**

Estimated Gallons in Water Savings per Year

**\$12,519**

Project Value

**\$0**

Out-of-pocket Cost

#### THE OPPORTUNITY

Located in northwestern Arkansas, Mercy Hospital Fort Smith has provided care to all who need it for more than 100 years. The hospital maintains its tradition of compassionate care and exceptional service while building a better health care experience through a dedicated staff, new services and innovative technology.

In 2012, hospital administrators and facility staff enlisted the help of Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corporation (AOG) to determine how energy efficiency improvements could help the hospital spend less money on facility operations and more on patients.

#### THE PROJECT

AOG's Commercial and Industrial Solutions team installed 963 low-flow aerators throughout the 343-bed acute care hospital, updating almost every sink in the facility. This includes the main Mercy Fort Smith Hospital as well as smaller outbuildings. The aerator update – valued at \$12,519 – was provided at no cost to the hospital.

#### THE RESULTS

Fort Smith receives proactive water bills based on its previous usage rates. A month after the aerator update, water consumption levels were so much lower than expected that the hospital's water provider sent a \$1 bill to balance the account. In addition to saving water, the aerator upgrade will enable Mercy Hospital Fort Smith to save 27,847 CCFs per year. This is equivalent to eliminating annual greenhouse gas emissions from 30 passenger vehicles, and will save the hospital \$8,761 in natural gas costs each year. Hospital administrators plan to continue working with AOG to save even more energy by identifying improvements to their boiler and steam systems.