

Mike's Minutes

Here it is D-Day, June the 6th and I don't have the newsletter done yet. Oh woe is me. I have no excuse (well I really do but you don't want to hear it). I hope this finds all of you as well as can be after the previous two weeks of weather. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those who suffered loss from the recent tornadoes and torrential rains. All of that makes our plight seem trivial by comparison.

We just have dirty ponds and uncut grass. No damage here at the store and only

some minor damage among our employees. Our ponds have never looked this bad and the grass has never been this high; at least not in my experience. We're slowly making headway but it seems we take three steps forward, it rains another 3.75 inches so we take two back and start all over again. Many of you



are facing the same thing based on the number of calls we're getting about cleanouts. We're thinking you might be better off waiting a week or two to see if this weather settles down before investing any time, energy or money into a pond cleanout. I know it's hard when you can't see your fish for all the dirt and grass that's washed into the pond or the debris left over from the storms. Use a net to get out as much as you can for now, do a partial water change to get rid of any unwanted chemicals the rain and hail may have dumped in on you and then wait it out. Make certain your filters are clean and keep after them as they clog

so that you're getting maximum filtration. Remember, your fish are okay even when you can't see them for the suspended particles and algae. You're the one who hates the way it looks. The picture on the right is what happens when you get water under your liner which is becoming a common occurrence as the ground gets so saturated from all the rain. This one happened because the waterfall filter became so clogged that it spilled over the back and ran under the liner. You can see the huge bubble it caused and the size of the rocks it shifted. Hydraulic pressure is a powerful thing. The only way to 'fix' this is to insert a tube under the liner and pump the water out with an inline pump or a Pondovac. That may entail moving some rock so the hose can be inserted from the side. Needless to say, the koi weren't too happy but at least they still had water. We got the water out, we'll fix the rocks another day—higher priorities prevail right now (like getting this newsletter to you, grass cut and ponds cleaned). We feel very fortunate that all we have are dirty ponds and long grass, many others aren't so lucky.....Mike

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Tips and Tricks

We've been missing some fish lately, if you are having the same problem, consider putting a net over your pond until the migratory birds have all gone back north. If you make an arch or two out of PVC pipe, the net can be draped over it and you can still see your fish. Any debris that lands on the net will fall down to the sides where you can access it. We even have one customer who draped his pond and plants when the heavy hail was predicted. Sounds like a good idea to us.'

Meet and Greet...

Meet Jay Josselyn our new grounds-keeper. Jay comes to us with a world of experience at 'fixing' things. While he doesn't know everything about the ponds yet, his wealth of knowledge about equipment and his know-how on other things makes him a jewel for us. Jay and his family live near Seminole. Stop by and say 'hi' to Jay next time you're in.



Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr
www.gcwgs.com for more info
 OKC 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm Will Rogers
www.wgso.org for more info
 Stillwater 3rd Monday @ 7:00pm
www.stillwaterwatergardens.org for more info
 Duncan 1st Tuesday @ 7:00pm Red River Tech
 580-595-0842 for more info
 If you have a water garden club let us know so we can advertise it here for you.

Awww, c'mon, like us on Facebook

You know you want to.



For future class schedules, go to www.pondproshop.com

The Water Garden Capital of Oklahoma!



Free Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2013 SCHEDULE

Check the schedule for start times. All classes are free and open to the public. No advance registration required. More classes added each month. Ten Pond Dollars awarded for each class. We train rain or shine in the only indoor pond training facility in the U.S.

June 15th
10:00am

Pondless Build
 Like the sound of water tumbling over rocks and want to enjoy that sound in your yard, but you don't really care about having fish in a pond? Then this is the class for you. This waterfall and stream don't have a pond at the bottom; the water just magically disappears.

July 20th
10:00am

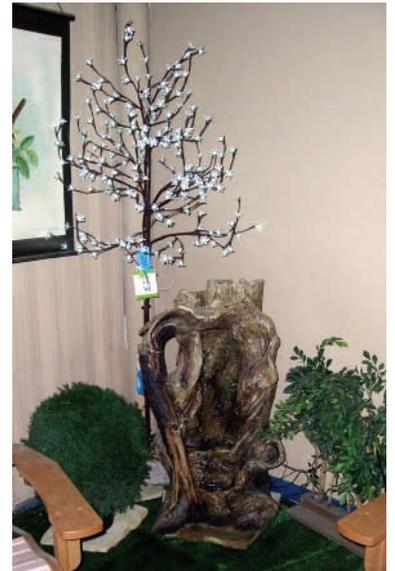
Controlling Algae
 Right now, algae is a hot topic. I promise it's going to get worse before it gets better. As temperatures heat up and this pesky rain quits, the algae will come on with a vengeance. Come to class and learn all we know about how to get rid of it and keep it away.

August

Due to the expected heat in the training area, we are not scheduling any classes for the month of August. The next class will be September 14th at 10:00am. We'll show you how to build a pond then.

Self-Contained Fountains

Here are just a couple of the great self-contained fountains we have from Yosemite. These fountains are perfect for a small space, like a patio, at the entrance to the house or as the focal point in your landscape. Set them down, fill 'em up and plug 'em in. These fountains can provide you with all the sounds of much larger water features. We have several on hand.



Get the latest information on our website, www.pondproshop.com and Facebook page. We will no longer publish a print version of this newsletter. Please note our Spring/Summer store hours; Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Our store number is 405-273-8363 if you have questions concerning products or classes.



Coupons for in-store use

Rain Barrel 15% off!!

The Aquascape RainX-change Rain Barrel has a planter lid for flowers and the water harvested is healthier for your plants. Available in both terra cotta and sandstone.



Coupon required. Valid through June 30, 2013

Coupon must be present for discount. Valid for retail store purchases only. **Not valid with any other discount**
 Applies to Retail Store Pricing Only.



Coupons for in-store use

Algaefix 20% off!!



Coupon required. Valid through June 30, 2013