

## Mike's Minutes

“Rain, rain, go away, come again another day.” I can remember saying that as a child when I wanted to play outdoors. Even growing up in farm country and knowing that the wheat needed rain to grow, I’d want it to go away sometimes. Invariably it would come in mid to late June and mess everything up when the farmers were all trying to harvest the crop. After harvest when we’d be plowing I can remember thinking it

sure would be nice to have a day off; which only happened when it rained a whole bunch. All of that to say ...enough! Please just a few dry days. We’ve got a water feature torn apart we can’t get put back together because of the frequent rains.

The picture on the right shows me standing almost knee deep in a pondless reservoir full of mud and water which had water under the liner and had to be repaired. Messy job but somebody had to do it. The weather people (is that politically correct?) are telling us this is the second wettest July on record with 9.84 inches through yesterday (July 30) in OKC. The wettest was in 1996 with 11.9 inches. However, Oklahoma is 20 inches over our normal rainfall for the year and ahead of Miami, FL and Seattle, WA. Enough for now!



We know you are suffering from all this extra water too. Our customers are asking how to best control the algae that is rearing its ugly head right now. We had a great class last week with 35-40 of you here asking and answering questions about your ponds. Most everyone wants a 'silver bullet'; one thing that will

fix their pond algae problem...to be honest, I don't know of one. Anyone who tells you 'this' or 'that' will do the trick alone is probably just trying to sell you something. We believe, and shared with the class Saturday, that it takes a whole box of tools to win the war on algae. Manual labor (removing as much sludge and algae as you can); a UV light ; algaecides; bacteria; water changes; plants; ionizers; and aerators all have a place in the fight. And that's what it is, a fight. Until your pond is balanced with the correct number of fish, plants and bacteria, AND the right size filter, you are going to have to fight algae whenever the condi-

tions are ripe for it to grow...warm water, sunlight, excess nutrients. I know that's not what you want to hear but as Jack Webb used to say on Dragnet, “Just the facts, Ma'am, just the facts.” I've included some pictures from around the internet to make you feel better. I'll bet none of you have ponds this bad or have algae that grows 3 feet a day. For some of you, just knowing there is an algae that can reproduce up to 8 million times per hour is enough to make you swoon; let alone finding it in your pond. Maybe you can take some solace in the fact that we are all fighting much the same battle and if you're one of those fortunate souls who are able to say, “I don't have any algae right now”— knock on wood. ....Mike



## Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr  
[www.gcwgs.com](http://www.gcwgs.com) for more info  
 OKC 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm Will Rogers  
[www.wgso.org](http://www.wgso.org) for more info  
 Stillwater 3rd Monday @ 7:00pm  
[www.stillwaterwatergardens.org](http://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.

### SPECIAL NOTE

Effective immediately we have limited availability for large liners after 5pm and on Saturdays. We'll stock most sizes up to 40 x 40 but if you want larger, call ahead and let us know so we can have it cut. All sizes will still be available between 9 and 5pm daily, we just won't always have someone to cut larger sizes after 5 or on Saturdays...Mike

## 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.

**August** Due to the expected heat in the training area, we are not scheduling any classes for the month of August. If you're intent on building your pond this month, come on in and we'll help you with some one-on-one instructions

**Sept  
14th  
10:00am**

### Pond Build

This will be our last pond build of the season. Come in and learn how to put together the pond of your dreams. We start with the hole already dug and go through the whole process step-by-step. During this class we will also show the installation of an OASE filter and bottom pump so you could have a hybrid pond with a beautiful waterfall and excellent external filtration.

**Sept  
28th  
10:00am**

### Pondless Build

This will be our last build of the season. If a waterfall cascading through your landscape is your dream, c'mon over and we'll share with you how to do it. We'll walk you through all the steps and also show you how to tune a waterfall and why the different sounds of the waterfall are so important to your overall enjoyment.



# Breezesta FURNITURE

We've dropped the price on this Breezesta suite. The love seat, club chair, ottoman and side table.



Get the latest information on our website, [www.pondproshop.com](http://www.pondproshop.com) and Facebook page. 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. To order online go to [www.pondliner.com](http://www.pondliner.com) or call 1-866-766-3548 to reach the internet call center.



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### Select Pottery

**40% off**

Many colors to choose from. All outside pots are 40% off. Come see the huge selection. We'll help you turn it into a fountain if you like.



No coupon required...select pottery only

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

### Special Purchase Basins

Regularly \$409 — Now only \$199.99

Rugged design holds up to 2,000 lbs. Easy install. Easy access to pumps. 44" square by 11" high. Holds approx 60 gallons. Perfect for that pot or rock. Limited quantities.



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