

Mike's Minutes

What a great Summer we've had...record rainfall in June, a reasonable amount in July and now we're truly in the 'dog days' of Summer and the August heat is beginning to dry up all the beautiful greenery Oklahoma has been blessed with this year.

As you receive this newsletter we are preparing for Labor Day weekend, traditionally the end of the Summer. I can remember when it signi-

fied the beginning of a new school year but nowadays they seem to start a lot earlier...more breaks during the year I guess. The store will be closed Saturday, August 30, as well as our normal days of Sunday and Monday to allow us to celebrate the holiday. It's been a great Summer and now we're looking forward to an even better Fall. The temperatures start to cool off a little and you can now get out in the yard and start that pond you've been dreaming about during the hot days we had. Come to our Pond building class on September 13th or the Pondless build on September 27th to learn how to install that feature yourself or find out that you want a contractor to do it for you. We have three Pond Pro



certified contractors we can recommend for you, all skilled in building all types of water features.

This is the time of year we generally begin thinking about our next season; what classes do we want to teach? Is there a desire for classes during the Winter? What new products are on the horizon? What training on products did we not get around to this year? And of course, October 31st is the end of our fiscal year and that means inventory time. Our entire complex of companies will shut down for inventory October 24-25, Friday and Saturday. I'm warning you early and will remind you again in October. It seems every year we have customers clamoring at the gate on those days and we feel badly about it but the auditors are adamant—no sales during inventory! Make

your plans in advance. Remember, Pond Dollars can be redeemed during the whole month of October.

We only have a few plants and fish left this year, if you're still looking for that special Kohaku or Utsuri, c'mon in. We'll make you a deal. Some of the plants will need to be in the ground or pond right now in order to give them a chance to winter over.

....Mike

Tips and Tricks

I'm beginning to see migratory birds and you know what that means? Blue Herons will soon be flying overhead looking for a rest stop that includes a snack...or a meal...or several meals. Our best advice is to get your nets ready right now. A simple structure of PVC pipe will keep the net suspended over the pond and keep predators like the Herons out. If you allow the net to touch the water, leaves may bag it down and begin to decompose which is what you're trying to avoid (along with protecting your fish). Additionally, I've heard stories of Herons being able to spear fish through the net floating on the surface but then they are unable to pull the fish out through the net and leave it to die from the wound.

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.

Water Garden Club members
and military (Active or Retired)

receive a

10% discount

(If they remember to tell us up front!
Not after they've already paid.)

Waterfall and Stream Class...

We had a great turnout for the class, maybe because it was being conducted in our new Unit Liner Company (ULC) training room instead of our normal training area that can get very warm during the Summer months. Fifty plus people turned out to learn all about constructing waterfalls and streams that attempt to mimic what Mother Nature does in the great outdoors. If you missed it, I still have a few handouts I'd be willing to share. Just ask.

NEW Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2014 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.

Sept

13th
10:00am

Pond Build

Do you want a pond in your backyard but don't know where to start? This is the class for you! We start with a hole in the ground, explain why it is shaped the way it is and then go from there step-by-step explaining as we go. Plenty of time for questions too.

Sept

27th
10:00am

Pondless Build

All the sounds and beauty of a waterfall without a pond at the bottom. Perfect for the front yard or in your commercial setting. Limited maintenance too. Come to class, we'll show you how.

October

18th
10:00am

Winterizing Your Pond

Cold weather is coming and you need to be ready. This class will detail what you need to do to protect your pond, fish, plants and equipment. No reservation required. Free!



A view from the back of the new training area we use for internal training of employees. I set it up for 30 and 57 showed up.

Get the latest information on our website or Facebook page; www.pondproshop.com or [facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/](https://www.facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/). Please note our Summer store hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday-Monday. 405-273-8363

Pond Heater

The purpose of a heater is to help maintain a hole in the ice so gass can transfer. This gas can be toxic to fish if not released from the pond. A heater will not 'heat' your water enough to allow you to keep feeding fish.



15% off

Coupon required, valid thru 9/30/2014

Plan for Winter!!

Valid for retail store purchases only. **Not valid with any other discount**

Only the largest discount will apply.

Cold Weather Food

Once temps get down below 65 you should feed a lower protein food. How you feed right now could influence how well your fish do over the winter.



15% off

Coupon required, valid thru 9/30/2014