

Mike's Minutes

We've just finished the annual Pondliner Water Garden Expo (WGE) for wholesalers around the country. We had over 200 of the brightest and best at this event for two days. They attended 24 seminars on how to conduct their business, how to estimate jobs, new products available today, a trade show with the major vendors in our industry and much more. We had attendees from CA, NC, FL, TX, AR, IL, NM, OK, KS, LA, GA, MD, NJ, CO, IN, WY, MO, NE, MA, WI, and PA. While here in the store we primarily

serve the local Oklahoma retail customers, you can see that our sister division, Pondliner.com, serves a much wider area for wholesale and retail. You can have even more confidence in your contractor now if he (or she) was one of the attendees who increased their skills by attending the Expo this year.

We're really excited that our free public classes start here in the store next week, March 7th. That signals the beginning of the season although it's three weeks earlier than normal. We will be manning a booth at the upcoming Tulsa Home and Garden Show, March 12-15 and then the Oklahoma City Home and Remodel show March 20-22 so class had to be scooted up to accommodate all the schedules. If you have a pond or want to learn about ponds, come to



A room full of networking contractors and dealers from around the country

"Spring Startup" class at 10:00am on Saturday, March 7th. There's no fee and no registration so come on out. We're pretty laid back and if we can't answer your questions, we'll find someone who can.

I think you're going to like the Koi we're bringing in this year. They should be out of quarantine by the end of April or early May so weather permitting, we can safely begin selling them by the May 16th class. It's still too early to move fish into or out of your pond unless it is an extreme emergency. Water temps here at the display yard are running 50 degrees or less. I know we'd like to hurry Spring but until the temps get up a little and stay up, we should err on the side of caution. A rapid 5 degree change in water temperature can be dangerous to your fish.

If you have not already removed the dead foliage from your ponds, this is the month to do it. We left a lot of our stalky type plants like umbrella palms, reeds, marginal's and the miscanthus grasses throughout the ponds and yard as they died off for the winter. It gives a little height around the ponds and looks better than the stumps left after they're cut down. Cutting them back soon allows new growth to come through. ...Mike



One of these seats could be yours - come to class

like umbrella palms, reeds, marginal's and the miscanthus grasses throughout the ponds and yard as they died off for the winter. It gives a little height around the ponds and looks better than the stumps left after they're cut down. Cutting them back soon allows new growth to come through. ...Mike

Tips and Tricks

It's almost time to either turn on or put your ultraviolet light back into service. Many of our customers remove them totally from the pond for the winter in order to save the life of the bulb and transformer. If you did that, start thinking about when you want to get it back in. Make certain the quartz sleeve and bulb are clean and the system works. Please don't look at the light; prolonged exposure is dangerous to your eyes. As we have more and more warm days the fish will become more active and the ammonia level in the pond will rise. Since your bacteria colony has died down during the cold weather and the plants are still pretty dormant, there is nothing to convert the ammonia or use any that gets converted to nitrates. It might still be a little early to add bacteria for those who have stopped. If you didn't, just keep up the regimen at the dosage recommended by the manufacturer.

Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr
 www.gcwgs.com for more info
 OKC 1st Tuesday @ 7:00pm NW Church of Christ
 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.)

Valid for Pond Pro Shop purchases only

NEW Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2015 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.

March 7th 2015 **First Class of the New Season Spring Startup**
 10:00am What do you need to know to get your pond ready for the Spring season and beyond. Bring your questions and we'll work on answers together. Start the year off right!

March 28th 2015 **Pond Filtration**
 10:00am Filtration, aeration, circulation. The big three of a healthy pond. We'll discuss various types of filtration and help you decide which is right for your pond.

April 11th 2015 **1st Pond Build!!!!!!**
 10:00am Pond Builds this year will be different. We will feature a different type of equipment at each build. This one will highlight Savio equipment. Beginning to end it takes about 2 hours.

HURRY UP SPRING!!!

This is what it's doing at the store today, Monday, February 23rd. I'm not sure the pond build scheduled for Wednesday is going to come off as planned.



Get the latest information on our website or Facebook page. **Please note our Summer store hours beginning March 31st: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday-Monday beginning March 31st.** Phone 405-273-8363 in the event of inclement weather.

NEW PRODUCT!!!

The Oase Filtral 700 is a multifunction filter system designed for preformed and small ponds. The integrated 7 watt UV light and filtration ensures a clear, healthy pond. (Pump and tubing not included)



\$129.99

No coupon required

Summer Hours Coming Soon. March 31st, 2015

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

Only the largest discount will apply.

FiltoClear 1600

\$199.00

The Oase FiltoClear 1600 is ideal for small to medium ponds. It allows easy cleaning without the mess with a backwash capability. The integrated UV clarifier keeps water clear. With the addition of a pump, filtered water can be pumped up to a waterfall. Pump cannot exceed 16 ft of head



No Coupon Required