



Alice's Corner

We are aware of how all of you are battling the heat, the problems of algae, and for extra time to water your landscaping, but when you do have a moment to enjoy, aren't the ponds lovely right now? If you do have some fuzzy algae but your water is clear, take a moment to look past the algae and enjoy your pond...the fish swimming lazily around, playing friskily in the splash of the waterfall, and the beauty of your water garden plants. The tropical plants should be flourishing in this heat and many of them are blooming right now. This is the time of year the benefits are reaped from efforts and time you spent earlier preparing your garden and ponds for this later show. One of the main concerns now is regular maintenance and feeding. There are a few things you can do regularly but not daily to maintain your water garden's beauty. To begin with, maintain an accepted level of fish with the equipment you have installed and the size of your pond (usually acceptable is 1" of fish for each 10 gallons of water volume). It is good to have 50% to 60% surface coverage with water plants providing shade for the fish, as well as helping to deter growth of string algae. When you do have an unacceptable growth of string/blanket algae, use an algaecide; **but** follow the manufacturer's instructions and as added insurance, if you have an aerator use it as well. Algaecides deplete the oxygen level in the pond and in this heat, that is not a desired effect. Use a clarifier once a week, a bacteria booster once a month, and keep your filters clean (if you are able—clean them with your pond water in order not to destroy the bacteria growing in them). Be alert to the water level in your pond. With our hot and windy summers, the ponds can evaporate up to two inches per week; even more if you have a splashing waterfall. A regular maintenance also is to "deadhead" your plants, removing any dead or fallen leaves, blooms, etc. from your water. Now that you are enjoying your "finished pond", come back to the Store and look at all the accessories you could add to the pond area that will further your watching and listening enjoyment.

FY!! We will have an "unscheduled class" here at Pond Pro Shop on Saturday, September 6, 10:00 a.m. to demonstrate making fountains out of pots, buckets, etc. If you have a special container you have been wanting to make a fountain out of, bring it and we will have fun together.

Alice

Tips and Tricks

With the costs of shipping these days, the expense of using large rocks in your water feature has risen. Many customers are opting for Pondless features or fountains while others are learning that less may be more...fewer rocks can actually make a water feature look more natural. Additionally, plants are a viable alternative to lining the banks with rock. They not only look natural but may provide some assistance with filtration and algae control.



Meet and Greet!

Michael Novotny. Michael worked with us a couple of summers ago in the yard. He was in college and working around a baseball schedule. He was on a mission trip last summer but came back to work fulltime this summer. Michael will graduate from OBU in the Spring and is getting married to his sweetheart Jennifer in January. Michael has "learned the ropes" very well and we have all enjoyed working with him. Say hi to Michael; I'm sure that next summer he will be moving onward and upward.

WHAT'S NEW?

Lights, lights and more lights!

If you haven't visited the store lately, come on in and see the light display room. We have seven different water features displaying most of our lighting products. The room is darkened so you can readily see the affect of the light on a feature similar to yours. The newest additions in our lighting section include the Cal Mini-Egg-lite, and the Alpine and Atlantic LED lights. All can be used either in or out of the water. The Atlantic's and Alpine's also come with built in photo cells that automatically turn the lights on at dusk and off at dawn. These lights are a good value and lighting will add to your enjoyment of a water feature.



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F 8am-7pm
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PHONE

405.273.8363
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ONLINE

www.pondproshop.com

DIRECTIONS

From OKC: I-40 East to
Kickapoo exit (exit 185); 2 miles
north of Shawnee Mall

Free Classes - SUMMER SCHEDULE

All classes begin at 10 am, except for pond builds which begin at 9 am, and will be held Rain or Shine. Pond Pro Shop has the only 'indoor' training facility for pond builders. Come enjoy building a new feature in our yard or if it's raining, we'll train inside.

August 16 Pond Build

9:00 am This is it! The last chance this season to learn from our installation crew.

September 6 10:00 am *Unscheduled class on "Making fountains out of pots, buckets, etc" Demonstration and helpful hints. Bring your special container for advice.*

September 20 Pondless Build

9:00 am *A hot new trend in water features, come see how it's done!*

October 18 Winterizing Your Pond/Water Plants

10:00am *Learn how to close down your pond for the winter and how to protect your plants.*

NO MORE CLASSES THIS SEASON.

Our staff will be glad to answer your questions and assist you in planning your water feature on an individual basis.



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