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What a tough act to follow! Here we are at the first of the month and I found myself wondering when Alice would get her article done for the newsletter...oh, wait; Alice doesn't work here anymore! I have to do the article now!!! It's been almost a month and we are still wondering what has happened to our apple cart. Alice is off enjoying her well-deserved retirement (busier than ever I'd bet) and we are here preparing for another wonderful season in the water garden wonderland of the Pond Pro Shop without her. It's a new experience for us all and we miss her. Our first class of the new season is less than two weeks away and many of our customers are already calling with questions about spring startup. If you are one of those who have braved the winter and are truly

ready for spring, be sure to join us at 10am on Saturday, March 16th. It's always informative and the questions and comments from the crowd mean we all learn new things.

On the back I've included a picture from the Water Garden Society of Oklahoma's booth at the Spring Remodel and Landscape show occurring at the Cox Convention Center this past weekend, March 1-3. The club has done a wonderful job of showcasing water features and decorative items used in and around ponds, waterfalls, overflowing pots and other neat little fountains. If you're thinking of building a water feature this year, talk to some of the members. They'll be at the Spring Startup class and have all kinds of information for you.

On our Facebook page is a short video showing the retrofit of a Helix Skimmer on one of our ponds here at Pond Pro Shop. It's the Pond Trade 2012 Product of the Year, designed by Eric Triplett, the man behind the camera in this video, and a water feature contractor from southern California. Eric was in town recently for our annual Water Garden Expo for the trade conducted by the wholesale division of the company, Pondliner.com. We took the opportunity to have one of these skimmers installed by the master himself along with a handpicked crew of volunteers from around the country who showed up for the demonstration. Take a look, I think you'll find it interesting.

You'll notice I've left the corner up there blank this month. I just can't think of what to call it now that it's no longer 'Alice's Corner'. So, help me out here. Email me your suggestion or post it in a comment on our Facebook page. ...Mike

Tips and Tricks

What's the number one best thing you can do for your pond right now? Remove all the leaves and organic matter that builds up during the winter before it can add anymore nutrient to the water. You may have to use a dip net to do this as it may still be too cold to actually wade into your pond. The second thing you can do is to start feeding bacteria to assist in the conversion of the increased ammonia your fish are beginning to release. Number three; plug your aerator back in or install one if you haven't had one before. The addition of oxygen to your pond can really make a difference on water clarity. And last but not least, don't start feeding your fish until the water temps reach a steady 55 degrees and then only cool-water formulated food.



Are You Interested in Rainwater Harvesting?

We are.

Here is the Atlantic Water Gardens Clean Rain Ultra Downspout Diverter. Whew! Say that fast five times. Nonetheless, this product will help divert the first flush of rainwater from your downspouts so what you capture doesn't contain all that debris from the gutters and roof.

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



The Water Garden Capital of Oklahoma!



WGSO booth at the 2013 Spring Remodel and Landscape Show Cox Convention Center

The members of the Water Garden Society of Oklahoma had a great display showcasing water features of all kinds at the recent show in OKC. If you're interested in a pond, think about attending their meeting and talk to the members. Maybe even join the club! They have lots to see and do.

You can learn more at www.wgso.org.



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.

Spring Startup

Mar 16 10:00am It's time to open up your pond for the season and we'll try to answer all of your questions about what to do-when-and how. You may want to consider a spring cleaning about now too so we'll cover the basics of that as well.

Pond Build

April 13th 10:00am This is the perfect time to build your pond and have it ready for the season. We'll show you step-by-step how to build the water feature of your dreams in your backyard. We'll have the dirt work all done and then lead you through the steps one-by-one. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions and get all the information you need to be a success.

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

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 new winter store hours; Wednesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Call 405-273-8363 in the event of inclement weather as ice and/or snow may keep us from opening or force us to open late.



Coupons for in-store use

Special Promo Item

From API, no coupon required. A 32 oz bottle of Algaefix along with an 8oz bottle of Accu-Clear Only
\$22.99
 That's a savings of \$8.00 over the regular price.



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

Spring/Summer Cleaner

Help jumpstart your pond for the spring
 Reduces the buildup of dead leaves & organic sediment
 Accelerates the breakdown of organics



15% off!!

Coupon required. Valid through March 31, 2013