



August Newsletter

I hope everyone's gardens are big and beautiful with the sunshine and heat we've been having. 2020 has been quite the year for the Club. I wish we could have more in-person meetings. But, due to the nature of this pandemic, we've held minimal meetings and activities. As you can imagine, it would be difficult to have people come to your gardens and home for the pond tour this year with this changing environment.

So, we've done something different this year with the pond tour. We've had a few volunteers willing to video their ponds. Then we've consolidated them into a video. You can view the 2020 Virtual Pond Tour on our website at UtahWaterGardenClub.org. Feel free to share this video with your friends, family, acquaintances, and anybody who loves water gardening. The Virtual Pond Tour features ponds from construction all the way to mature ponds. We get to see a pond in the evening as well as the mechanics of a pond. As always, there are lots of beautiful fish in each pond. So take time and enjoy the free Pond Tour this year!

With this year fast approaching a close, we would like to have one more Pond Club meeting on September 17th at 7:00 pm. We will host this in the backyard of Daniel's and Lewis's home (11707 S. Thornberry Drive in Draper). Please bring your favorite mask and a lawn chair for a great evening of social distancing.

My hope for 2021 is that we can get back to our normal schedule and the traditional Pond Club format. We will reach out in the spring of next year. Hopefully we will be through this pandemic and life will be back to a normal that we all remember. Stay healthy and strong! Happy water gardening.

Your Pond Club president,

Daniel Peel



Know Your Koi!

Koi are the crowning jewel of a water garden which features fish. They grow up to 40 inches (more usually around 30 inches in the United States), come in many beautiful varieties, and with proper care can overwinter in northern Utah so long as their winter requirements (open water for gas exchange, oxygenation and deep enough water so that they can stay safely below the ice level) are met.

But there are so many types!

Beginning this month, each month we will feature a variety of koi. Over the course of a couple of years, we hope to feature all of the most popular types. So read along and learn more about these amazing fish.

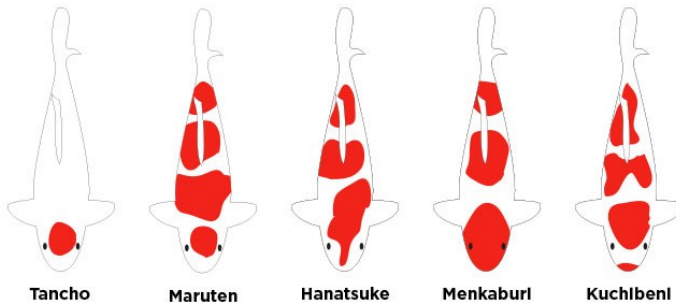
This month we feature the Kohaku Koi. This is the oldest and best known variety of koi. It has a solid white base with patterns of red overlaid on top of the white. Top quality Kohaku display a bright, blemish-free white combined with deep, vibrant red tones. The even distribution of the pattern along the body is also important.

Variations of Kohaku include Doitsu Kohaku (a variety with few scales), Gin Rin Kohaku (a regular Kohaku with sparkly scales), Maruten Kohaku and Tancho Kohaku (often considered a separate variety).

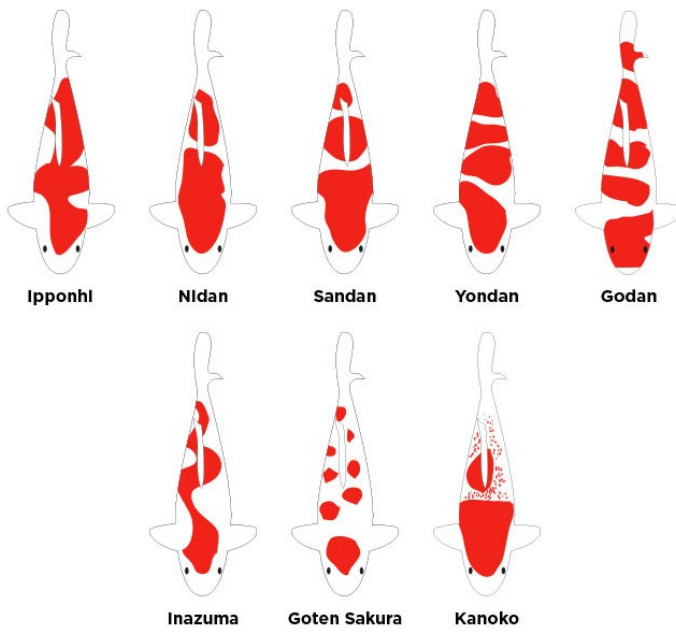
The most interesting thing about a Kohaku is its pattern. A few types are shown on the next page.



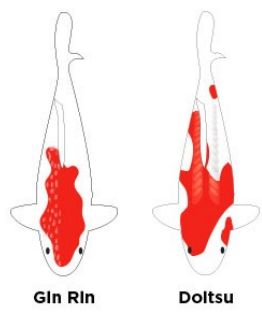
Head and Face Patterns



Body Patterns



Scale Types



Intermountain Stone & Marble

We are a local family-owned company that was started up in 1954. We've been going strong for 66 years. With years of hard work and dedication focused on perfect this dying art, Very few people are able to fabricate what our skilled Stone Craftsman can. Kitchens, Bathrooms, Fireplaces, Wall Faces, you name it, we can create your stone masterpiece. Email us at Debbie@intermountainStone.com



Marginal Plants

These plants go by many names. Call them ‘shelf plants’, ‘bog plants’, or ‘shallow water aquatic plants’, marginal plants bring a lot to the table. They filter the water, and provide habitat for frogs and small fish. They create beautiful corners in the pond and soften hard edges to give your pond a natural appearance. Some of these plants like only wet soil, some can handle being planted 2 inches or as much as 7 inches deep. And a few will grow both in the pond and around the edges (outside) of the pond for a natural and coordinated appearance. Below are eight plants which will flourish in our northern Utah climate and all of which can be perennial- they will (with care) come back year after year.

Thalia Dealbata (aka Hardy Water Canna)

This is a lovely aquatic plant with large, handsome, blue-green leaves. In mid-summer, taller spikes of purple blooms emerge in clusters. Foliage grows to 3 feet tall in height and flowers bloom on taller stems. Native to wetlands in parts of Nebraska to New York and through southern United States. When planted in large containers or planters, these plants make a striking focal point adding beauty to your water setting.

This plants will work in lined and earth bottom ponds. It is not a plant that koi or turtles tend to target. Pond Megastore, an online retailer, calls this plant “the Perfect Pond Plant”!

- Width: 3 foot spread or more
- Sunlight: Full sun
- Moisture Requirements: Wet with up to 10 inches of water above the soil
- Bloom: Purple flowers bloom in mid-June through August above the foliage
- Zone: Hardy in zones 6 through 12



Graceful Dwarf Cattails (Typha lazmannii)

This is a lovely addition to your water garden setting! Also known as cat tail plant, cat ‘o nine tails or bulrush, Graceful Cattails gently sway in the breeze as they add authenticity to any pond setting. This plant will grow 4 to 5 feet tall rather than the common cattail (typha latifolia) which can grow to over 9 or 10 feet tall and is quite invasive. It blooms in mid-summer with attractive brown catkins following the bloom period in late



summer and early fall. Foliage is stalk-like with flat, reed-like leaves and spread by runner.

- Height: 48 to 60 inches tall
- Width: 18 to 24 inch spread
- Sunlight Requirements: Full sun to part shade
- Moisture Requirements: Very moist soil to shallow water about 6 inches maximum depth
- Bloom Time: Blooms in summer, forms brown catkins after bloom period
- Zone: Hardy in zones 4 through 11

NOTE: If up to 5 feet tall is more than your space calls for, you can try the Micro Miniature Cattail (*Typha minima*). This one will only reach 18 inches tall at most. However, the plant cannot tolerate water deeper than 1 inch above the soil, and cannot tolerate rocks or pebbles on top of roots.



Obedient Plant (*Physostegia Virginiana*, *Physostegia leptophyllia*)

This is a common garden favorite which also performs well in the pond! It is known commonly as obedient plant because a flower pushed to one side will often stay in that position. It is also known as “false dragon-head” because the blooms have a snapdragon like appearance and upright habitat. The plant has emerald green, lance-like foliage which grows taller throughout the summer.

Around August it produces flower spikes which bloom from late August or early September until frost. Foliage grows around two feet tall, with 10 inch flower spikes which bloom above the foliage. Obedient plant has a nice clumping habit and spreads by root and rhizome. Bonus: This plants is a favorite of honey bees and hummingbirds!

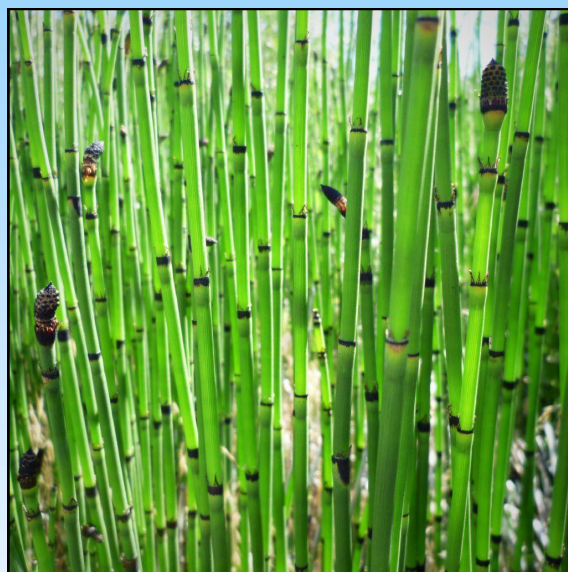
- Height: Around two feet, higher with bloom spikes
- Width: Around eight inches, but will gradually spread in given room
- Sunlight requirements: Full sun to partial sun



- **Moisture Requirements:** Regular, well-watered soil to bog areas to about 2 inches maximum depth
- **Bloom time:** in Utah, late August or early September until frost
- **Zone:** Hardy in zones 4 through 11

Horsetail Rush (*Equisetum Hymale*)

Horsetail Rush has a deep-green, jointed stems that add interest to your water garden setting as well as adding a tropical look. It has slender stalks that resemble bamboo, with a striking, upright habit. It grows by runner. Horsetail Rush adds beauty and an architectural vibe to your water garden setting. This is a perennial herb that reproduces by spores, not seeds. The slender stems do not have leaves or flowers. This plant looks great in a highly stylized garden or at the edge of a pond, adding height and vertical interest. This is a favorite with architects or gardeners looking for simple, straight and clean lines.



- **Height:** 3.5 to 4.5 feet
- **Width:** spreads up to 12 inches per growing season if given room
- **Sunlight requirements:** Full sun to part shade
- **Moisture requirements:** Moist soil to wet with up to 2 inches of water over the roots.
- **Zone:** Hardy in zones 4-12

Many varieties of Canna Lilies (not the same as *Thalia Dealbata*)

Canna lilies are bold, tropical-looking, herbaceous plants that are summer bloomers. North of Zone 7b, canna lily bulbs must be lifted and stored during the winter. Many cultivars have been bred to grow partially submerged in shallow water as well as in saturated soils (if your Canna is not in water, you should water it at least 1 inch to 2 inches per week). If the canna is in a container, you must water it every day, possibly two times per day on very hot days.

Because they are heavy feeders, they can really help absorb extra nutrients in your pond. If there are no extra nutrients, you will



have to fertilize). A few varieties that are water loving are Pink Sunburst Canna, Chiquita Punch Canna ‘Dwarf Orange Punch’, Longwood Canna, African Sunset Canna and Tropicanna Canna (this one is available widely).

Cannas will bloom repeatedly all summer. Many have spectacular striped or red foliage as well. They do not like the wind, so a protected spot would be best

- Height: 15 inches to four feet tall, depending on the variety
- Width: 6 to 18 inches, depending on the variety
- Sunlight Requirements: Full sun
- Moisture Requirements: Moist soil for terrestrial gardens or for pond use, one inch of water above the surface of the container (no more than two inches above the soil level).
- Fertilize: Fertilize throughout the growing blooming season for repeat blossoms
- Bloom Time: All summer long into fall
- Zone: Hardy in zones 7b to 10 (lift rhizomes and store for winter in northern Utah)

Variegated Sweet flag (Acorus Calamus)

This plant will brighten the edges of your pond or bog area with its lovely, variegated foliage in shades of cream and green. Great for mass plantings or for planting on the edges of your pond, and then growing in a container submerged within the pond to continue the theme. This plant will slowly spread, but will not become aggressive and overtake your pond. It is easy to maintain.

- Height: 24 to 30 inches tall
- Width: 18 to 24 inch spread (will continue to slowly spread each season if given room)
- Sunlight Requirements: Full sun to part shade
- Moisture Requirements: Moist soil with up to 4 inches of water above the roots
- Zone: Hardy in zones 5-10

NOTE: a related plant — Dwarf Golden Japanese Sweet Flag (Acorus Gramineus “Ogon”) — is similar but smaller, with a yellow stripe instead of cream, and will grow only to 12 inches tall.



Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*)

Yep! We usually think of this plant as a common groundcover. But creeping Jenny is a great pond plant. It looks great cascading down the rocks around your waterfall. It will also grow well in a bog area. The runners will spread right down into the water, softening edges and creating a lush look. You can also plant it in containers and sink the containers into the water, so long as there is less than 1 inch of water above the roots.

Height: 2 to 4 inches

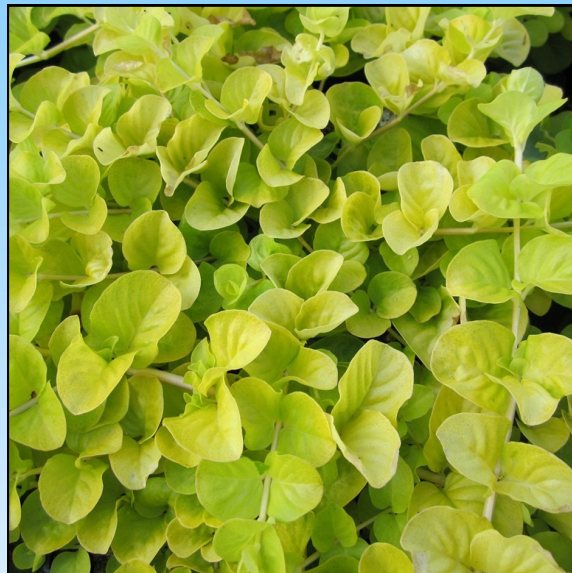
Width: spreads up to 1 foot over a summer

Sunlight Requirements: Full sun to full shade (will bloom best in full sun)

Moisture Requirements: Moist soil to submerged up to an inch

Bloom Time: small yellow blooms in June

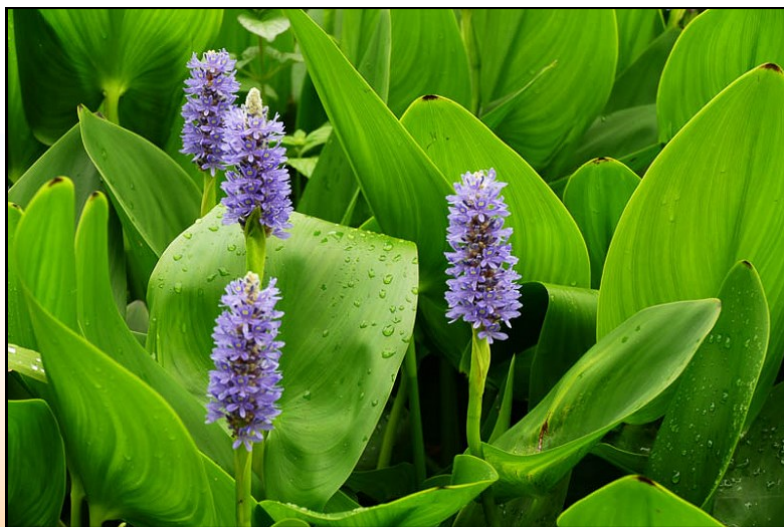
Zone: Hardy in zones 4-8



Pickerel Rush (*Pontederia Cordata*)

This is a lovely, green, pond plant with large, lush, green leaves and small blue-purple flower spikes. Flowers spikes bloom around the glossy foliage nonstop all summer long into October. You can grow this one in a container or at the edge of a pond or lake. Even in the middle of a stream! It will grow 2 to 3 feet tall, and can handle moist soil to water as deep as 7 inches for mature plants. Pickerel Rush will also attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your water garden.

- Height: 2 to 3 feet tall
- Width: 14 to 24 inch spread
- Sunlight Requirements: Full sun to part shade
- Moisture Requirements: Wet, up to 7 inches of water above roots for mature plants
- Bloom: Blue-purple spikes of flowers above foliage all summer long
- Zone: Hardy in zones 3-10. When planting in containers, keep roots from freezing



Thank you to our sponsors!



CHEERS TO 25 YEARS!



HOUSE OF PUMPS

Specialists in Pumps & Pumping Systems

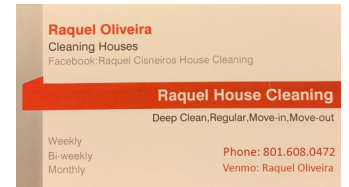
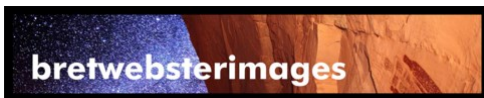
Thank you to our sponsors!



*Designs of
the Heart*



ESTABLISH
—  —



LUNDS
—  —
Fine Art Gallery



Who we are

The Utah Water Garden Club is a non-profit organization serving the greater Wasatch Front. We strive to foster an appreciation for and interest in the use of water in the landscape, through monthly meetings, educational programs, an annual pond tour, and sharing our water gardening experiences. We are a group of volunteers dedicated to water gardening, pond keeping, and koi. Our members range from novices to commercial professionals.

Our annual Water Garden Tour is a self-guided tour of out-standing local garden. Due to the current pandemic, we are holding a "virtual" 2020 tour! See the Club's website at UtahWaterGardenClub.org



Officers

President: Daniel Peel
435-660-0784
danielpeel@me.com

Vice-President: Kelly Flint
801-274-3040
kflint3040@msn.com

Secretary: Zoe Godbois
435-623-5100
zoecast@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lewis Wayman
801-916-2500
lwayman@stylecraftframes.com

Board of Directors

Ty Rosser
801-995-8521
ty@utahlights.com

Gil Avellar
801-572-0853
trout42@hotmail.com

Nancy Aoyagi
801-712-9484
avon_naoyagi@hotmail.com

Richard Cobbly
801-641-0179
Past President
randcobb@comcast.net