

Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

April Newsletter



Welcome to Spring!

Greetings fellow ponders! As the weather warms, it feels so good to get outside and enjoy the flowers, the warm air, and our ponds. We're looking forward to seeing each of you at our May meeting at Red Butte Gardens. Ty Rosser and Jessica Schmutz will be our speakers.

We continue to look for ponds for our pond tour. How wonderful to be able to enjoy one another's ponds again! If you would like to be on the tour this year, please contact a club officer (phone numbers and emails are on the back page). Being on the tour is a great incentive to finish off that last little pond project, meet new people, and share your hard work with others.

Inside this month's newsletter, we have article on water conservation, upcoming community events, the Goshiki koi (Daniel and Lewis have a lovely one), how to divide pond plants, and the lovely water lily Tanzanite.

Enjoy your ponds, and mark your calendars for May 19.



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DATES OF INTEREST

- Our next meeting is May 19 at Red Butte Gardens
- The first day of summer is Monday, June 21
- The 2021 Pond Tour will be August 13 & 14
- Our annual bargequewill be on August 18

The Drought Continues

According to the National Drought Mitigation Center, 90 percent of Utah is currently experiencing extreme drought conditions. The intensity level of these conditions increases fire dangers, stresses native vegetation and affects water usage. Gov. Spencer J. Cox issued an Executive Order in March declaring a state of emergency.

At the Salt Lake County level, 100 percent of Salt Lake County is under extreme drought conditions.

Water is the essence of life. It provides us with joy, health, food, economic opportunities, adventures, breathtaking landscapes, power generation, laughter and memories, and because it makes up two-thirds of our bodies, it makes it so you can be here, reading our newsletter (and on the earth)!

Utah's population is projected to double by 2065, so stretching our water supply is critical. Traditionally, two-thirds of Utah's growth has been from "natural increase" from the

population having children. This percentage is declining with more people moving in. People have discovered Utah is a great play to live, work and play. Unfortunately, they don't bring water with them. Conservation is key to ensuring we have water now and for future generations.

The Utah Division of Water Resources lists the three pillars of water efficiency:

1. Do your part

There is not an entity or individual that is entirely responsible for or is the exception to, water efficiency. We all need to do what we can to use water wisely.

2. Every step counts

Taking a shorter shower, updating infrastructure and appliances, fixing a leak, adjusting sprinkler timers, installing secondary water meters, running or following an education campaign, or installing waterwise

landscaping. It all adds up to big water savings and helps us become waterwise.

3. Efficiency is Utah's ethic

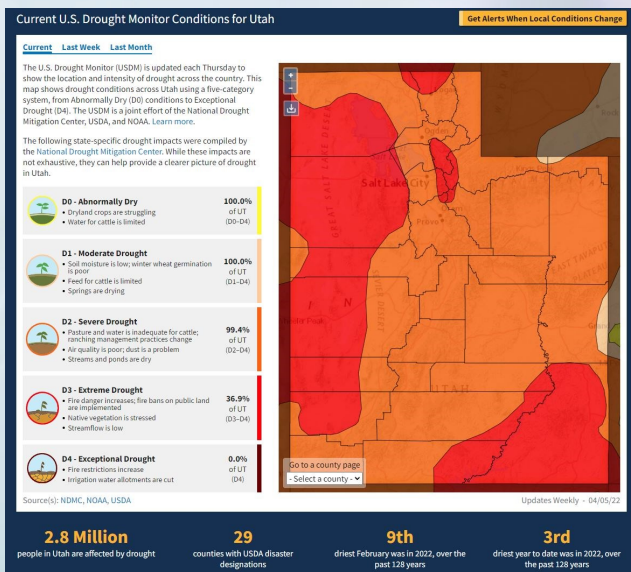
As Governor Cox has noted, we do not conserve water because we have a wet or dry year; we conserve because, as Utahns, we're not wasteful.

May Meeting

Our first meeting of the year will be at 7:00 pm on May 19 at Red Butte Garden. Our speakers will be Jessica Schmutz (a landscape designer) and Ty Rosser (landscape lighting). Come and renew old friendships and make new friends!

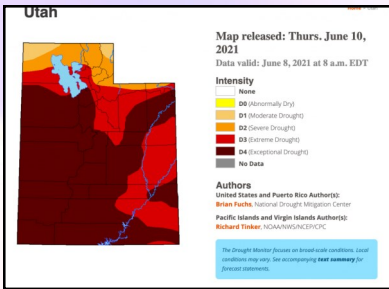
2022 Meeting Schedule

- **May 19** - Red Butte Garden
- **June 16** - Flints' pond – Patio ponds
- **July 21** - watch for details
- **August 18** - Annual barbeque
- **September 15** - watch for details
- **October 20** - Annual Banquet



Drought Resources and Info

USDA Climate Hubs



[Drought monitoring and reporting in Utah](#)

NOAA National Integrated Drought Monitoring System- Utah



[Current U.S. Drought Monitor Conditions in Utah](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor – Utah



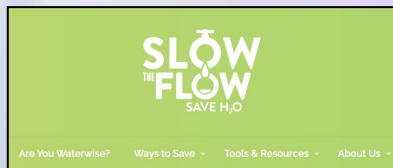
[Drought monitoring and reporting about Utah](#)

Utah Department of Natural Resources



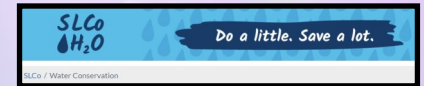
[Utah Division of Water Resources — Conserve Water](#)

Slow the Flow



[Water Saving Tips](#)

Salt Lake County



[Water Conservation in Salt Lake County](#)

Water Wise Utah Partnership



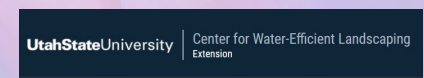
[Conservation News & Resources](#)

Conservation Garden Park



[Demonstration water garden](#)

Utah State University



[Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping](#)

Upcoming Community Events

Thanksgiving Point Tulip Festival



Purchase tickets [here](#)

Great Salt Lake Bird Festival

The 2rth Annual Great Salt Lake Bird Festival will be held on May 12-15, 2022.

Festival attendees will have the unique opportunity to go beyond the habitats and trails of this premier birding location with trips that take them around the Wasatch Front to areas with open water, shores of fresh and saline lakes, sagebrush foothills, and, depending on weather, to aspen and evergreen forests. The Festival offers



over 27 field trips during this year's festival, each designed to create a uniquely different experience. Some trips even offer exclusive access to areas that cannot be visited by the general public. Attendees will be able to experience some of Utah's most beautiful State Parks, State Wildlife Areas, and National Refuge areas. You can purchase tickets [here](#).

Know Your Koi – Goshiki!

Goshiki pronounced (gosh-key or Go-she-key by some) are an interesting breed of Koi. The name means ‘five colors’ in Japanese, but frankly it is not a fitting name in my opinion with today’s Goshiki. You do not readily see five colors at a glance and it is a stretch to do so no matter. This is one breed I feel the Japanese creators misnamed. Most times the Japanese names are right on the money as for descriptive names that tell a story of what the Koi breed looks like. The name was probably created because of the look of some of the first Goshiki created when they crossed a Sanke to and Asagi.

The Goshiki basically a white based Koi that has a fishnet black pattern on top of the white base that covers the entire back and runs from the top of the back down to the lateral line (center line of the side of the fish that runs from gill plate to tail base). On top of the fishnet pattern there is a red or orange pattern similar to the Kohaku. This pattern is called the Hi (hee) plate. One difference in this Hi plate from Goshiki to Kohaku is that the Goshiki Hi tends to be much thicker, bolder and more neon in color intensity as compared to the Kohaku Hi plate which can be a glossy red/orange but not neon. The Goshiki Hi plate actually glows and gives the impression of thickness to the point that the Hi plate can look like a sticker stuck on top of the fishes fishnet pattern.

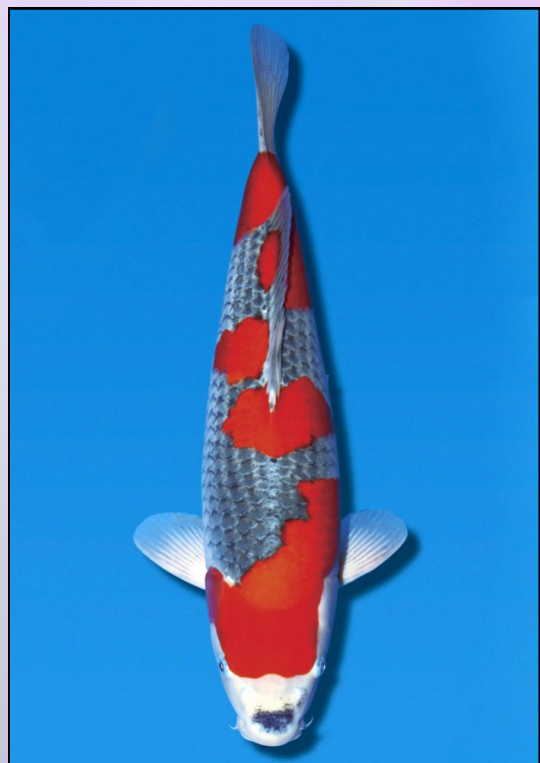
There are also offshoot breeds from Goshiki called Goshiki Sanke and Goshiki Showa.

A good Goshiki should have a clean fishnet

pattern with no specs or black spots thrown in to disrupt the fishnet look. The neon red or orange as described above should be thick, and have good clean and crisp edges to the Hi plate. You don’t want to see any holes in that hi plate, but it is ok at times that the black fishnet pattern show through the Hi plate.

This is dependent on the age of the fish as to whether it is a detriment or not. As they mature the Hi plate should and usually does thicken with time, and the fishnet pattern will no longer show thru. The degree of thickening of the Hi plate is a distinctive trait of the Goshiki. However, in all this, the Goshiki can be a very unstable fish when speaking of color development.

It is not uncommon that many Goshiki end up losing that hi plat all together. If that happens you are left with quite an ugly fish. The risks however are worth the reward if they develop properly. They are simply stunning to see!



Dividing Pond Plants

After a long winter's nap, your aquatic plants are a great place to start flexing that green thumb of yours. Potted water lilies and bog plants will need to be divided, but how you do so will depend on the type of plants you have. In general, bog plants will need to be divided every one to two years, and water lilies will need to be divided every two to three years.

Here are simplified, step-by-step instructions for how to divide your aquatic plants. Pull out your waders, pruning tools, extra plant baskets, planting media and garden hose – and let's get to work.

Dividing Bog Plants

Bog plants include species like corkscrew rush, dwarf cattails and irises. Some have clumping roots, some have runners and some have rhizomes. Regardless of the type of root mass, here's what to do with them:

1. Lift the pot or container out of the pond and gently remove the root mass.
2. Use your garden hose to wash the soil off of the root mass and trim any dead leaves and foliage.
3. Divide the root mass depending on the type of root system.
 - *Clumping Roots* – Like corkscrew rush, separate the roots into sections, leave some roots intact with each section.
 - *Runner Roots* – Like dwarf cattails, cut the runner root and leave the root base with each section of the plant.
 - *Rhizomes* – Like irises, simply divide them into sections.

4. Replant each section of plant in its own container and dispose of any plant overgrowth.

Dividing Water Lilies

Water lilies – both tropical and the hardy variety – are also easy to divide. You'll know it's time to separate them when you notice fewer lily pads, reduced blooms or splitting pots.

1. Lift the pot or container out of the pond, locate the tuber and gently remove it.
2. Rinse off the soil, and trim away root growth and old foliage.
3. Identify the crowns, or the little buds where a new lily pad group will sprout, and cut between them with a sharp knife. Keep the pieces 3 to 4 inches in length. Each one of these will become a new water lily plant.
4. Using aquatic planting media, plant each section separately at a 45-degree angle so that the growing tip is still exposed above the soil.
5. Place your repotted lilies in a shallow area of your pond where only a few inches of water cover the plants.
6. Once new growth appears, move the lilies to the deeper areas of your pond.

Fertilize and Tend

After you divide and replant your aquatic plants, don't forget to give them regular doses of fertilizer to ensure they're getting the nutrients they need to thrive and produce vigorous blooms. Keep your colorful beauties looking good by keeping them trimmed and regularly removing dead foliage throughout the growing season.

“Healthy water lilies grow rapidly and it's possible to get as many as 25 new plants from one large rootball - that's enough to transform your pond into a Monet-inspired artwork! The best time to do this is in spring because the leaves haven't fully developed, but there should be enough emerging green shoots to know which parts of the plants can be separated.”

Know Your Water Lilies — Tanzanite

Nymphaea 'Tanzanite' is a dazzling tropical waterlily which creates deep violet purple flowers with a yellow center. *Nymphaea* Tanzanite will produce multiple flowers at a time, each with over 50 petals. The pads are richly mottled with purple and make this waterlily striking even when not in bloom. *Nymphaea* Tanzanite was introduced by Florida Aquatic Nurseries in 2009. It won Best New Waterlily in the 2009 IWGS New Waterlily Competition.

Height: flowers 4-6 inches above

Width: 4 to 6 foot spread of lily pads

Bloom Season: summer to fall

Bloom Color: Deep violet

Flower Production: Moderate to heavy 2-4 blooms

Foliage Color: Mottled pads

Container Size: 2-7 gallon container

Fertilize: 3 to 5 fertilizer tabs per month

Hardiness Zones: 10 through 12

Light Conditions: full sun to part shade

Hybridizer/Species: Florida Aquatic Nurseries



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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 outstanding local gardens. We were excited to again hold our tour last year, and are looking forward to this year.

Watch for details in future newsletters and on the Club's website at

UtahWaterGardenClub.org

