



September Newsletter

Hello fellow ponders!

It's been a great pond season. We've thoroughly enjoyed being able to meet again with all the great members of the pond club. And we were excited to again sponsor the pond tour. Thanks to all who've opened their yards and ponds to host meetings and be on the tour. And thanks to each of you for coming out and sharing our passion.

It's hard to believe the season is coming to an end. None of us (or at least few) look forward to shutting down our ponds for the winter. But check out the article on preparing for fall and winter in this month's newsletter.

And we still have our **annual banquet** to come! We're holding it this year at **Asian Star**, an excellent restaurant featuring Chinese food. It's located at 7588 S Union Park Avenue in Midvale. You can get tickets from any club officer or board member. Tickets are \$20 per person. The club will cover the balance of the cost.

Hope we see you there!



Preparing for Winter

If you're like us, you hate to see the summer pond season come to an end. It feels too early to think about winter (even if Costco has Christmas decorations in stock). But fall is nearly here, and we all need to begin thinking about preparing our ponds for winter.

FALL PREPARATION

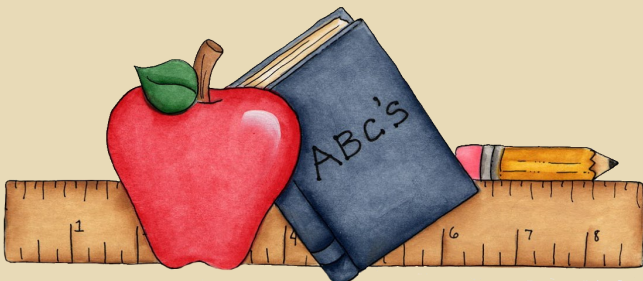
Even though you may want to keep your pond running into autumn, it's a good time to clean it out before the temperatures drop to 50°F because:

- Any fish in your pond are still active enough to be strong swimmers. The chances of them getting injured as you clean around them are low.
- It's a lot easier to clean pond water when it isn't partially frozen and/or full of heavy seasonal debris (like fallen leaves or stray mulch).

Start by cleaning the water's surface — scoop up leaves with a net (make sure to avoid picking up any fish). Then scoop out any debris that has accumulated on the bottom.

Pond plants are nice to look at and are beneficial to your fish. They're also a significant source of fall debris. As your plants begin to die off:

- Prune away dead stems to prevent water decay
- Take non-hardy plants (like tropical lilies or water hyacinths) indoors for the winter
- Hardy plants (like water lilies) can be moved to the deep end of your pond
- Any bog plants you have can be covered with straw or other insulating aggregates



Banquet

Our annual end-of-season banquet will be on October 21 at the Asian Star Restaurant, located at 7588 S Union Park Avenue in Sandy. The cost is \$20 per person, and the club is picking up the rest of the cost.

If you don't yet have your tickets, please contact any club officer or director. Come and enjoy great food and wonderful company. Celebrate the end of another successful ponding season.



Once the pond is clean, install a pond net to rest above it; like a hammock tied between two trees. A pond net will catch any leaves, branches or other debris and keep it from falling into your pond. Here are some things to keep in mind as you secure your pond net:

- Suspend it at least 18" from the water surface of your pond
- Tie the edges of the net tight to make sure debris doesn't slip through them
- Lastly, be certain to check your net regularly to ensure it doesn't sag into the water. If it does, it can be dangerous to your fish and provide a spot for leaves and junk to collect and get caught in.

CLOSING FOR WINTER

Preparing your pond for the winter is all about:

- The pump
- The filter
- The UV clarifier

Some people, even in the middle of winter, like to keep their pump running for circulation and aeration. Your fish will hang out at the bottom in the winter. So it's a perfect environment for them to be comfortable.

Of course, you can also turn off the pumps and filter for the winter. If you do, it generally won't harm the fish because:

- Cold water has more oxygen than warm water
- Fish tend to breathe slower in winter (they use less oxygen)
- Bacteria won't grow in winter (so you don't need the filter to clean it away)

Should you decide to turn off the filter for winter, make sure to completely drain all your pond pump accessories, including all plumbing pipes, external pumps and UV filters. If you're storing your supplies in an unheated area (like a garage or shed), double check that every last drop of water has been drained out.

Failing to fully drain your system if you turn it off is certain to result in ice cracking and breaking everything. Your best bet is to store any equipment you turn off indoors in a warm and dry location.

WINTER FISH CARE

It may sound cruel, but leaving fish (especially koi) in your pond during the winter is actually good for them if:

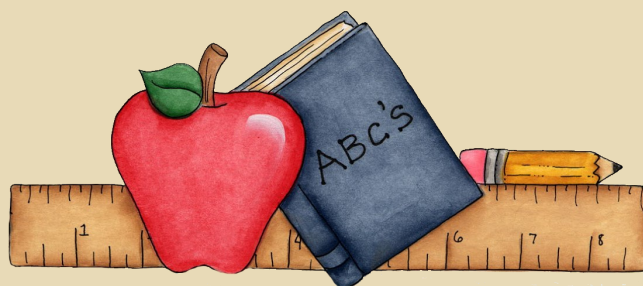
- Your pond is at least 18" deep
- It has little to no water circulation

You may want to take delicate fish like goldfish, bubble-eyed fish or lionheads inside for winter, though.

Remember, warm water tends to sink to the bottom of your pond. In winter, that's where your fish will be anyway. They won't hang out by the surface, so there's little chance of them becoming frozen or too cold.

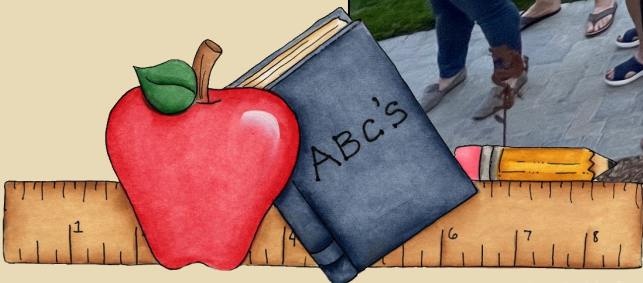
One last thing: once the temperature gets below 4°C (39°F), you can actually stop feeding your koi and other fish.

Don't worry: they won't starve. They have enough stored energy to sustain them during the winter.

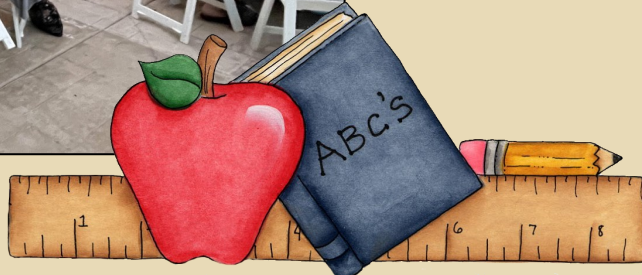


September Meeting

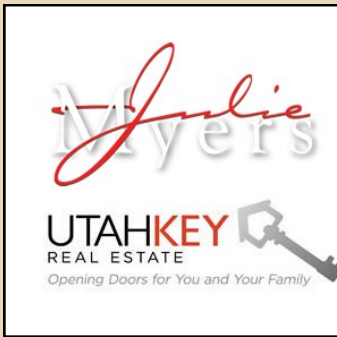
Thanks to the Avellars for hosting our September meeting and annual BBQ. And thanks to all who came and contributed to a fun and delicious pot luck. This was our last regular meeting of the year. Next month is our annual banquet, at the Asian Star Restaurant in Sandy.



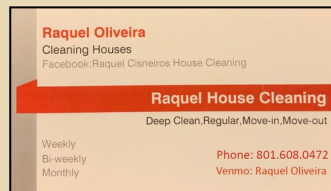
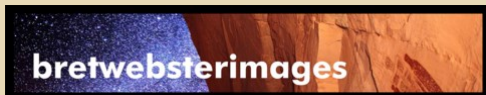
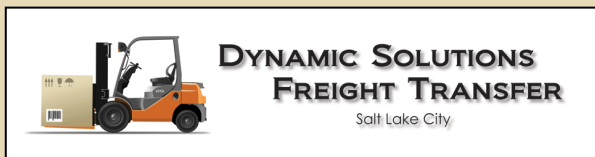
September Meeting



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Know your water lilies: Detective Erika



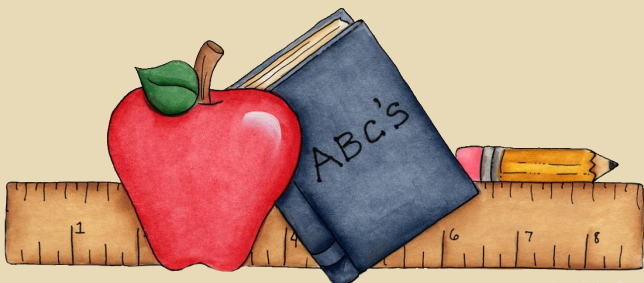
Detective Erika waterlily was created by Mr. Zijun Li of Guangzhou China in 2013. This unique waterlily is a cross between *Nymphaea* x *Brachyceras*. In other words, it's a cross between a hardy and a tropical waterlily hybrid. Such a waterlily is called an Intersubgeneric Hybrid or ISG hybrid. Zijun named this waterlily after one of his favorite novel characters — Detective Erika Furundo.

Detective Erika is an outstanding waterlily which produces 8 inch (20 cm) rich purple flowers. The petals are narrow and elongate; the flower is star-shaped. Detective Erika is a profuse blooming waterlily and will be a vigorous grower.

In 2016 Detective Erika was named Best New Waterlily and was the 1st Place winner of the ISG Waterlily division by the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society.

While Detective Erika is itself winter hardy . . . one of the characteristics of this and other crosses where one parent plant was a tropical waterlily is that they do not come out of dormancy until the water is very warm in the spring, in the low to mid 70s at root level. You should wait until air temperatures are consistently in the 80s in the afternoon and 50s at night before placing in an outdoor pond.

Detective Erika Waterlily is a mass bloomer! It is so large, a wide pot is needed. Plant in loam soil and place your Detective Erika Waterlily in shallow water, 5 to 15 inches beneath the surface of the water, in full sun.



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Know your koi: Sanke

Sanke are a member of the Gosanke family, Sanke are koi with a solid white body, with areas of red and black pattern overlaying the white.

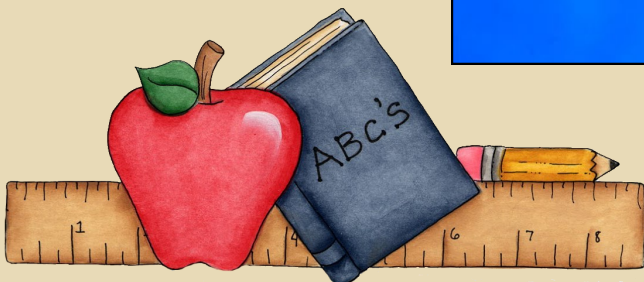
first distinct Sanke bloodlines. Most Sanke in the koi industry today can be traced back to the Torazo bloodline.

While the exact date which Sanke first appeared is disputed, it is known that a Sanke was displayed at the 1914 Tokyo Exhibition. Since this koi was approximately 15 years old at the time of the show, it is widely accepted that Sanke were first bred sometime around the turn of the 19th century.

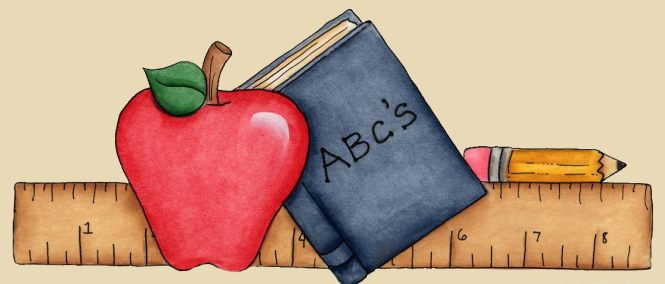
It is not known if the first Sanke were intentionally bred. Some of the first Sanke in recorded history were found in Ojiya City, Niigata. These Sanke, which were found among Kohaku fry, were cross-bred with Shiro Bekko to produce the Torazo bloodline, one of the



Sanke have a solid white body, with areas of red and black overlaying the white body. The white should have a snowy or milky-white color, and should be clear and unblemished. A yellow tint to the white area is considered undesirable. Look for a dark shade of red that is even in tone. Ideally, the black should be a deep, solid, lacquer-like color. The hue and shade of the red and black should be uniform in all areas, with both colors evenly distributed about the body, and not confined to one side or one end of the body. The edges between the white, red and black should be sharp and well-defined.



Know your koi: Sanke



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 be able to hold our tour this year and are looking forward to next year.

Watch for details on the Club's website at UtahWaterGardenClub.org



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