

# Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

April, 2018

We had a really wonderful April meeting at Red Butte Garden. Thanks for coming to those that attended. It was a small group but the talk was very interesting and informative. Our speakers were Brad Stewart and Stephanie Duer from Salt Lake City Public Utilities Department. They gave a fantastic talk about water quality issues in our community and urged our involvement with our State Representatives to ensure that we maintain and improve our water quality. There are some legislators who attempt to undermine water quality in favor of development in our sensitive watershed areas. Please stay alert and let your thoughts be known to your representatives.

Richard Cobby, our President, announced the dates of the 2018 Pond Tour (August 4 and 5) and asked for volunteers to show off their ponds for this great event. Please let any officer know if you have an interest in showing your pond at the tour or offering your garden for one of our monthly meetings (when the weather gets warmer!). Our refreshment was a medley of delicious pies!



We are looking forward to seeing even more of our friends again at the April 2018 meeting! We hope current members, members-to-be, and friends can break away from your normal routines to join us at **Utah Water Garden on April 19 at 7:00 pm**. The early spring meeting we typically have at this location is always great. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Please remember to pay your membership dues for 2018. We will have a credit card reader available at the meeting and we can also accept checks and cash. Dues for 2018 are \$45 for couples and \$35 for singles. We encourage you to become club members so you can receive the all the benefits the club offers.

If any member wishes to help the officers and the board with activities and events this year, please contact any officer. We could use the help and it is a great way to get to know the members. We promise we won't take advantage of your precious time by asking for more than you may be willing to provide.





## April

April 19, 2018 7:00 pm  
Utah Water Gardens  
3674 South 900 East, Salt Lake City  
Speakers: Sheida Hajarian-Maguire,  
Sterling Hermann and Rosie Cobbley  
Topic: Pond Plants for Utah Ponds  
Meal & soft drinks provided  
Adult Beverage Friendly  
Please bring chairs  
Wheelchair Accessible

## May

May 17, 2018 7:00 pm  
Glover Nursery  
9275 South 1300 West, West Jordan  
Speaker: Shane Thorstrom  
Topic: Container Water Gardening  
Meal & soft drinks provided  
Please bring chairs  
Wheelchair Accessible

## June

June 21, 2018 7:00 pm  
Avellar Pond  
11747 S. Watson Road, Sandy  
Annual Summer BBQ  
Please bring chairs  
Adult Beverage Friendly  
Wheelchair Accessible

## July

July 19, 2018 7:00 pm  
Location and speaker to be determined

## August

Pond Club Annual Pond Tour  
August 4 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
August 5 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

## August

August 16, 2018 7:00 pm  
Location and speaker to be determined

## September

September 20, 2018 7:00 pm  
Flint Pond  
5310 Baywood Drive Holladay  
Speaker: Julie Flint  
Topic: Victoria Water Lily

## October

October 18, 2018 7:00 pm  
Fratelli Ristorante  
9236 Village Shop Dr., Sandy  
Annual Club Banquet

## IHOP The Ponder Frog...



## Ponders...That Darn Algae!



Spring has sprung and so has Algae Blooms! Algae is one of the most talked about topics among new pond owners. Controlling algae is usually more of a problem for new ponds. A new pond does not have the proper balance of plants, animal life, and general biological function.

### Proper Equipment

One of the most important things that you can do when setting up a new pond is to get the proper equipment installed. The pump you install should move at least 1/2 of the total pond volume for a water garden. The term “water garden” is assumed to be a pond with lots of plants and some fish. A koi pond usually has few plants and large fish requiring more filtration than a water garden. This type of pond is better off moving at least the full volume of the pond each hour.

Besides moving the water, you also want to filter the water. The pump should move water through a filter that is sized for your pond. Biological filtration takes several weeks or months to mature to the point that it makes a major improvement on your water quality. The filter needs to run 24 hours a day 7 days a week to work.

### Proper Construction

Another major consideration for creating good water quality in the pond is one that is properly constructed. A pond should have about 40% of its surface area for the deep zone, which should be at least two feet for a water garden and three feet or more for a koi pond. Thirty percent should be an intermediate depth of 1-1/2 to 2 feet and the remaining 30% at least 1 to 1-1/2 feet deep. A slight slope to the deepest level allows for easier removal of debris from the pond.

A pond skimmer is another option as it can remove up to 85% of debris before it sinks. The pond should be constructed so that rainwater does not flow over the yard and into the pond. This is one of the more common causes of algae in the pond. Rain runoff carries with it lots of organic debris that contain nutrients that feed the algae. Also, fertilizer or chemicals could be carried into the pond causing problems. If your pond is already constructed you cannot do much about the depths of the pond but you can alter the area around the pond to make sure that runoff does not flow into it.

A pond built using concrete, limestone, or marble will also tend to have a high pH, which can contribute to greater algae growth.

### Proper Maintenance

Some debris buildup in the pond bottom is normal. As long as this sludge is no more than 1/4 inch or so physical removal is not necessary. In a properly constructed pond this debris ends up in a fairly small area where it can be removed when necessary. Course material like string algae and dead leaves can be removed with a net. A skimmer net or algae net does a good job of this. If the debris is too fine to be removed with a net then a pond vacuum works well. There are products on the market that you might want to investigate that should reduce the sludge and keep it to a minimum. The regular use of bacteria and

enzyme products like EcoFix, PondZyme , Microbe Lift line of products or Simply Clear is not only good for the overall pond water quality they also help reduce odors, improve the health of the fish, reduces the amount of sludge in the pond which would otherwise promote algae growth.

### **Proper Plant Balance**

If you have a water garden and not a koi pond then make sure you have the right types and numbers of plants in the pond. Anacharis or other underwater plants and floating plants remove excess nutrients from the pond by absorbing these nutrients for their own growth and starving the algae for its food source. Also provide approximately 2/3 surface coverage using water lilies, floaters (like Water Lettuce or Water Hyacinth), or other plants that shade the surface of the water. These plants reduce the amount of sunlight that penetrates the pond; this helps keep the water cooler and starves the algae for sunlight.

Even though you have set up your pond using the right components, have added the proper type and number of plants, and do not have an excessive number of fish you could still have some algae. This is especially true when a pond is young. Other methods of algae control may be called for during the first few years of a pond. As a pond matures (as long as it hasn't been totally emptied and refilled) the algae gets less and less and may no longer be a problem.

### **Additional Algae Control Methods**

What can we do while we are waiting for our ponds to mature? One thing that every pond owner should do is to add beneficial bacteria and enzyme products, as mentioned in the maintenance section above, to their pond on a regular basis. Not only is this good for the overall pond quality it reduces odors, improves the health of the fish, reduces the amount of sludge in the pond, and reduces the algae. If your problem is green water then you can solve this easily by installing an ultraviolet sterilizer. This is the only way to guarantee clear water 100% of the time.

Filamentous algae have many algae cells attached together. It comes in many forms, it can be long and stringy, it can be short and furry or in the shape of

webs or mats. The short velvet type of algae that covers the liner and everything else in the pond is beneficial. It helps provide a natural appearance to the pond. It uses nutrients from the water, provides oxygen during the day, and the fish nibble on it. This type of algae cannot be totally eliminated with fish and plants in the pond. String algae, which may coat the waterfall, is a little harder to control. You can physically remove it from the pond where possible. Filamentous type algae will flourish on waterfalls and in shallow streams because the sunlight is more intense providing more heat and light than what may be in other parts of the pond and there is a constant supply of nutrients flowing through it. GreenClean can be very effective in treating filamentous algae on the waterfall and stream.

Barley Straw and Barley Straw Extract can also be effective in improving water conditions for most ponds. When treating for algae it is very important to ensure you have adequate aeration and do not exceed package directions.

If you do decide to use a treatment to control the algae, make sure it is safe for your water critters or other critters that may drink out of your pond.

Remember that fish and fish food add nutrients to the pond, which in turn feed algae. Don't add more fish than your pond and filter will support and don't overfeed your fish.

Yet another means of algae control is a pond Ionizer. Ionizers can reduce algae growth by releasing a measured amount of minerals to the water.

### **To Summarize:**

Keep the organic load down by keeping runoff out of the pond and the sludge to a minimum. vacuum sludge that has already accumulated. Less than 1/4 of an inch of sludge on the bottom should not be a problem.

Don't over feed or keep more fish than your pond will support.

Install a large biological filter and give it time to work, this could take several months.

Use enough, and the right type of, aquatic plants. This means surface plants for shade and floaters and underwater plants to remove excess nutrients.

Use biological treatments and give them time to work.

Barley Straw Extract can be used in ponds less than 3000 gallons.

Install an ultraviolet sterilizer for the most effective control of single-cell (green water) algae.



## Member News!



Congratulations **Millcreek Gardens**, the 3rd Place Western Region Winner for 2017! Mary Barthel Henderson of Master Nursery Garden Centers presented the award to owner LaRene Bautner.

**Members, watch for Millcreek Gardens' annual 99 cent Geranium sale coming up at the end of April. They go fast, so check it out!**



# Random Thoughts



## The Pond Trading Post



The Pond Trading Post is a forum to trade or adopt plants, fish, amphibians, single socks or small children. Please email Sherry and Gil Avellar at [trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com) with a short description of what you would like to adopt out or what you might be seeking for your pond. Please provide contact information as well.



*Have a good fishy recipe? Submit it for our newsletter to [trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com)*

## Scallops Provencal

### Ingredients

1-pound fresh bay or sea scallops  
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper  
All-purpose flour, for dredging  
4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, divided  
1/2 cup chopped shallots (2 large)  
1 garlic clove, minced  
1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves  
1/3 cup dry white wine  
1 lemon, cut in half

### Directions

If you're using bay scallops, keep them whole. If you're using sea scallops, cut each 1 in half horizontally. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, toss with flour, and shake off the excess.

In a very large saute pan, heat 2 tablespoons of the butter over high heat until sizzling and add the scallops in 1 layer. Lower the heat to medium and allow the scallops to brown lightly on 1 side without moving them, then turn and brown lightly on the other side. This should take 3 to 4 minutes, total. Melt the rest of the butter in the pan with the scallops, then add the shallots, garlic, and parsley and saute for 2 more minutes, tossing the seasonings with the scallops. Add the wine, cook for 1 minute, and taste for seasoning. Serve hot with a squeeze of lemon juice.

Pairs well with Pinot Grigio

## Club Officers 2018

**President:** Richard Cobbley 702-302-6315 ([randrcobb@comcast.net](mailto:randrcobb@comcast.net))

**Vice-President:** Julie Flint 801-274-3040 ([jam199@comcast.net](mailto:jam199@comcast.net))

**Secretary:** Sherry Avellar 801-664-9528 ([trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com))

**Treasurer:** Daniel Peel 435-660-0784 ([danielpeel@me.com](mailto:danielpeel@me.com))

## Board Members

Sterling Herrmann 801-560-0745 ([oahuheather@gmail.com](mailto:oahuheather@gmail.com))

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Shirley Simmonds 702-302-6315 ([shirjonevermore@gmail.com](mailto:shirjonevermore@gmail.com))

## Club Historian

Lewis Wayman 801-916-2500 ([lwayman@stylecraftframe.com](mailto:lwayman@stylecraftframe.com))

## **2018 POND TOUR SPONSORS**

The officers are starting to solicit support for our club by approaching past sponsors and encouraging new sponsors to join. We will be expanding this list as we get commitments so stay tuned!

Please visit our merchants who have been so generous in sponsoring this pond tour. Without their help we would not be able to provide the quality tour books and put on as great a tour as people in the community have come to appreciate. Keep this book for future reference. If you are planning on building a pond, the sponsors listed here will be glad to offer help and advice along with the best prices in town. The pond tour book is also a handy phone book to many of the pond suppliers in Utah, as well as an address guide of your future friends, should you join our club!

<b>Asphalt Materials</b>	<b><a href="http://asphaltmaterials.net/">http://asphaltmaterials.net/</a></b>	<b>W. Jordan</b>
<b>Glover Nursery</b>	<b><a href="http://www.glovernursery.com/">http://www.glovernursery.com/</a></b>	<b>W. Jordan</b>
<b>IFA Country Stores</b>	<b><a href="http://ifa-coop.com/">http://ifa-coop.com/</a></b>	<b>Various Locations</b>
<b>Pendleton Design Management</b>	<b><a href="http://www.pendletondm.com/">http://www.pendletondm.com/</a></b>	<b>Sandy</b>

Last but not least, thank-you to all of our members and pond tour homes. Without all of your help we would not be able to put on such nice tours.