

The Prairieland Splash

Prairieland Koi And Pond Society Meeting: At the home of Loren Swanson; 9 Knollcrest Court, East Peoria

Directions From Peoria, go East on War Memorial on Dr; continue over the river on RT24; Turn right on College Dr (ICC); Turn left on Centennial Dr; Turn right on Northgate; Turn left on Country Lane; turn left onto Knollcrest Court; #9 is on the left.

I think that fall has arrived, I saw temps in the low 30s shortly after daylight this morning, I am ready for cool weather but this maybe may be a little to cool to soon. I shouldn't complain after the summer we had.

There are couple of articles in this months newsletter that I think you should enjoy, one was written by Sheldon and talks about the use of salt, I know that we had one earlier but I think it worth covering again . The other talks about for fall pond maintenance, I pulled this together from several different sources.

Greg will be demonstrating the use and care of the club owned pond vac at the October meeting, I believe this is a great asset for the members to use.

Don't forget that we will be electing officers at this meeting and we are also looking for ponds for next years tour.

Hope to see you at the Swansons.

Todd

Prairieland Koi
& Pond Society

Oct 2012

Vol 16 Issue 9

The Club will be selling supplies at each meeting . If you need something before a meeting date please contact Allen.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$3775.86
Income	\$ 663.00
Expenses	\$ 14.00
Ending balance	\$4407.37

Pond Supplies for sale

Micro-lift Bacteria	Fish food spring summer
Superbugs bacteria	Filter media (stored in East Peoria)
Algae fix	
Lily tabs	
Plant stakes	

Contact Allen

Don't Forget to check the website;

www.pkps1.com

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2012 Meeting Dates and Locations

Nov. 10, 2012 - Banquet Knights of Columbus Hall, Pekin

Fall Pond Prep

Pond Plants

- Prune Hardy plants
- Move hardy marginal plants to deeper water
- Bring tropical marginal plants indoors

Pond Fish

- Switch to cold water food once water temp falls below 60F
- Stop feeding fish when water temp falls below 48F
- Consider adding salt to pond water to increase slime coat, this will help ward off parasites and help reduce stress

Pond Filters

- Thoroughly clean and inspect the pond filter
- Consider ordering replacement parts that maybe needed for the filter, this will make sure that you have them when spring comes
- Don't forget your UV filter, it should be stored in a frost free area

Pond Pumps

- Thoroughly clean the pump
- Check for wear and order any replacement parts that may be needed
- If you decide to leave pump running, move it below the freeze line and good luck
- Store your pumps in a frost free area, it is recommended that you store them in a bucket of water, this help protects the seals from drying out

Pond Water

- Consider placing a net over the pond to keep out leaves and other debris
 - Some suggest that you consider removing debris from the bottom of the pond
 - Check water quality, is Ph correct?
 - Consider adding cold water bacteria
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Nomination of club officers took place during the September meeting

Nominations are:

President

Todd Bong

Vice President

Vince Smith

Secretary

Letriana Cantrell

Treasurer

Karen Hofstetter

Elections will take place during the October meeting

Free Fish

Sheldon is scheduled to have some fish to give away at this months meeting, I understand that most are from last years hatch. If you are interested please bring an appropriate container to transport fish in.

Salt

Salt, Sodium Chloride, NaCl. All are terms that refer to one of the tastiest of seasonings, and also a favorite medication of Koi keepers for a wide variety of fish health problems.

In the process of learning about fish and their diseases, one becomes increasingly aware of the relationship of the fishes environment, stressors affecting the fish, the fishes pathogens.

Specifically, it is important, when confronted by certain pathogens, and certain conditions, that the medicine we select to treat the problem does not cure the parasite, but cause irreparable harm to the environment, or cause stress or damage to the fish.

This is where salt comes in.

Salt has many benefits over other medications

- 1) Used properly it does not harm the majority of fish species
- 2) It does not push sick fish "over the edge".
- 3) It eliminates quickly 7 of 9 parasites.
- 4) It does not pose a health risk to humans that come into contact with it.
- 5) It is cheap
- 6) It will not harm your bio filter.

Salt at (0.3 %) kill list:

- 1) N America Trichodina. (Japanese Trichodina requires 0.6 %)
- 2) Costia
- 3) Fluke infestations are cleared by 14 days continuous 0.3 % salting
- 4) Epistylis
- 5) Chilodinella
- 6) Scyphidia
- 7) Glossatella
- 8) Tetrahymena can be cleared from surface ulcerations
- 9) Ichthyophyrius (white spot disease) clears in three days at 78 degrees F.

Salt can clear new introduction of all of the above parasites when used as a 3.0% (8 lbs salt in 32 gallon of water) dip. Fish will roll over on their side within 15 seconds (depending on their size and condition) . If this happens the fish must be removed and placed in pond water quickly. Great care should be taken when doing a salt dip

The vast majority of plants will survive salt levels at 0.3 %.

Plants that are know to survive are:

- 1) Hyacinths
- 2) Iris
- 3) Lilies
- 4) Lotus

Many types of algae, most notably, string algae, will die at 0.3% or better. Once these algae die the decay of their bodies can cause a drop in dissolved oxygen. The severity of this depends upon the amount of salt sensitive algae in the system before treatment. Additional circulation and aeration should be added.

Acceptable salts that can be added to Koi ponds:

- 1) Water softener salts that do not have additives (I have used Solar Salt brand)
- 2) Kosher salt
- 3) Poultry and cattle salt that does not have added minerals

A salinity meter is a must for pond owners to accurately monitor salt levels.

A .3% solution can be achieved by adding 3 pounds of salt per 100 gallons. Salt should be added over a three day period unless it is a dire emergency.

Without a salinity meter the pond owner must know with reasonable accuracy the number of gallons in their pond system.

Salt levels should be returned to .03% after approximately two weeks.

If a microscope examination of fish is not possible salt should undoubtedly be selected first because there is no other choice that is equally harmless. However, regardless of what treatment is selected it should only be applied after water quality has been tested and corrected

Sheldon

Prairieland Koi & Pond Society Club Meeting

September 8, 2012

The September 8, 2012 meeting was held at ICC. Vice President, Larry Zehr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. There were 39 members in attendance.

Guest Speaker

Guest speaker, Vince Smith, gave a demonstration on how to create a pond deicer. The device is not a heater but it does keep a hole in the pond during the winter months. It is less costly to run, around \$6.00 a month. Other electrical heaters can run up to \$90.00 a month. It takes about two hours to build and about \$70.00 for all the materials. The following are the materials needed:

1. plastic tub
2. insulated bubble wrap
3. PVC sewer pipe 4" to keep bulbs out of water
4. 2 couplings
5. 4 cans of foam
6. 2 pieces of treated wood
7. 2 light switches to be mounted to wood
8. 25' extension cord
9. nylon line
10. (2) 40 watt bulbs

Other tips from Vince:

Vince created an attachment to avoid getting in the pond. He attached a clipper with a cord to an extractable handle to clip off dead items from lilies and other water plants. Another attachment he uses is a skimmer that will attach to the handle to scoop debris out of the pond. He also built a window frame out of plastic ceiling tiles that can be put in the skimmer box.

Miscellaneous items

Brenda will be adding all members' names addresses and phone numbers to the directory to be handed out at the banquet. If a member does not want that information available please contact her. Forms for the November 10, 2012 banquet are available.

It is election time, if anyone is interested in running for elected office contact one of the board members. Vince Smith was nominated for Vice President.

The next meeting will be held on October 13, 2012, at the Swanson's house with a gathering afterwards.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Letriana Cantrell, Secretary



Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

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