

The Prairieland Splash

Prairieland Koi and Pond Society

November 2019 Volume 10

Annual Banquet Saturday, November 9, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Tremont Community Center

214 S. Sampson Street, Tremont, IL

We hope everyone will join in for an evening with fine-finned friends and good food!

Directions:

From Peoria: take I-74 east and exit onto I-55 south towards Lincoln. Exit I-55 at Route 9 into Tremont. Continue west into Tremont and turn left on S. Sampson Street. The Center is located in the second block on the left.

From Pekin: take Route 9 east towards Tremont. After entering town look for S. Sampson Street and turn right. The Center is located in the second block on the left.

You can pay your dues anytime and they are still only \$20.00/year. Please give check/cash to our treasurer or send to:

Letriana Cantrell
311 Arnold Road
East Peoria, IL 61611



News by Jeannie Clarke

It's getting to be the time of year to put your koi to bed. Remember that parasites love to overwinter in the debris at the bottom of your pond and then infect your fish when their immune system is low, especially Costia.

Keeping your pond clean has the added benefit of your pond being less likely to turn green or black in the spring. Hopefully string algae will be a minimum as well, but some years nothing seems to stop that.

I always try to clean the bio-converter while the weather is still a bit warm. I have had the pleasure of doing it in freezing weather and I try not to do that again. I still run my pond until I go away for my winter vacations in November but let it run until then. When I close it down, I clean the skimmer and store the pump and filters where it is dry and just drain the bio-converter. Not much crud builds up especially if your pond is clean. Also, cut down the water plants so they don't pollute the water when it freezes. Many plants like water lilies and lotus can be cut back and sunk to the bottom of the pond. I haven't cut mine back just yet but will do so when the weather gets colder. After all you don't have to get wet to do that, unless you fall in. We've all done that a time or two.

Hopefully you have already netted the pond to keep out the leaves. If not, It is time. Leaves are a huge reason ponds don't open well in the spring. Parasites overwinter under them ready to attack your weakened fish in the winter or early spring before they have had a chance to get going with a healthy immune system. Also, leaves are terrible for water quality and it will take forever to get the water cleaned out and clear again. Take pity on you and your poor fish.

Good luck in closing your pond. When I turn off my pond for the winter, It feels like owning a dead pet.

Article reprinted from Aqua Meds website:

Disinfecting my Koi Pond Plants

Pond plant disinfection can be a tricky topic.

When you put pond plants into your koi pond for the first time, you want to make sure they are not introducing any new parasites or problems into your koi pond. A great way to disinfect your pond plants is by using potassium permanganate. This will get rid of any fish eggs, snails, or parasites that may be on the plants. It can be used even on frail plants such as anacharis and cabomba.

To use the potassium permanganate, you want to use double the dose you would use if koi were present. For example, if you usually use three to six parts per million with your koi, you want to use six to twelve parts per million on the plants.

If you have a pond plant in a pot, you want to make sure the dirt gets disinfected along with the plant. To do that, you want to extend the period of the time the plant is in contact with the potassium permanganate.

Also, plants with airborne foliage need to be submerged in the potassium permanganate. This is easy to do. Use something light, such as the plastic cover from a fluorescent light to press the plant down into the solution.

You should leave your pond plants in the potassium permanganate for three to six hours to ensure complete disinfection.

Some think that Malathion should be used to disinfect koi pond plants. It does work, but should ONLY be used in koi ponds twelve thousand gallons or larger. It is too risky to use in koi ponds smaller than this because it can hurt your koi.

Buy your pond plants from a “Fishless Pond”

You also want to look at where you buy your plants from. It is a good idea to buy from a vendor who does not house koi and pond plants together because koi parasites cannot possibly come on the plants if they are not in contact with koi.

In summary, potassium permanganate is your best bet for disinfecting plants. Malathion can be used in large koi ponds or small lakes, but should NOT be used in koi ponds less than twelve thousand gallons. Also, whenever possible, buy pond plants from vendors who keep them separate from koi.

Jeanne called the October 12 meeting of PKPS to order at ICC. 18 members and 1 cat were present.

Genny Gibbs was our speaker. Her topic was Atrocious Arachnids and Bodacious Bugs. Insects have 6 legs, arachnids have 8 legs. Mosquitos are the deadliest animals in the world. Deb's co-worker at the Ag Lab is studying the 2 most common mosquitos in this area. The culex and the albopictus. 1 is active at night and 1 is active during the day. There are many types of deterrents but check all ingredients. Pyrethroids are deadly to bees, fish, and other aquatic life including dragonfly. Spiders are not affected by insecticides. They need arachnicides which contain Neem oil.

Following Genny's talk it was time for election of officers. No one was interested in running so current officers were re-elected. Jeanne Clarke - president, Lisa Carter - vice-president, Letriana Cantrell – treasurer, Margy Simmons - secretary

Jeanne apologized for not contacting anyone about the pond cleanup. It was done at the last minute with only a few people. There were no Koi to give away.

The banquet is November 9. Reservations are due by October 31.

After the raffle, the meeting was adjourned and those interested took a tour of the ICC Japanese garden with the newly completed Moon Gate.

Margy Simmons, Sec.

PKPS 2019 MEETING SCHEDULES

GENERAL MEETINGS

Date	Location	Speaker
November 9	Tremont Community Center	PKPS Banquet

BOARD MEETINGS

Date	Location
November 23	Rick Moreland



Prairieland Koi and Pond Society

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