

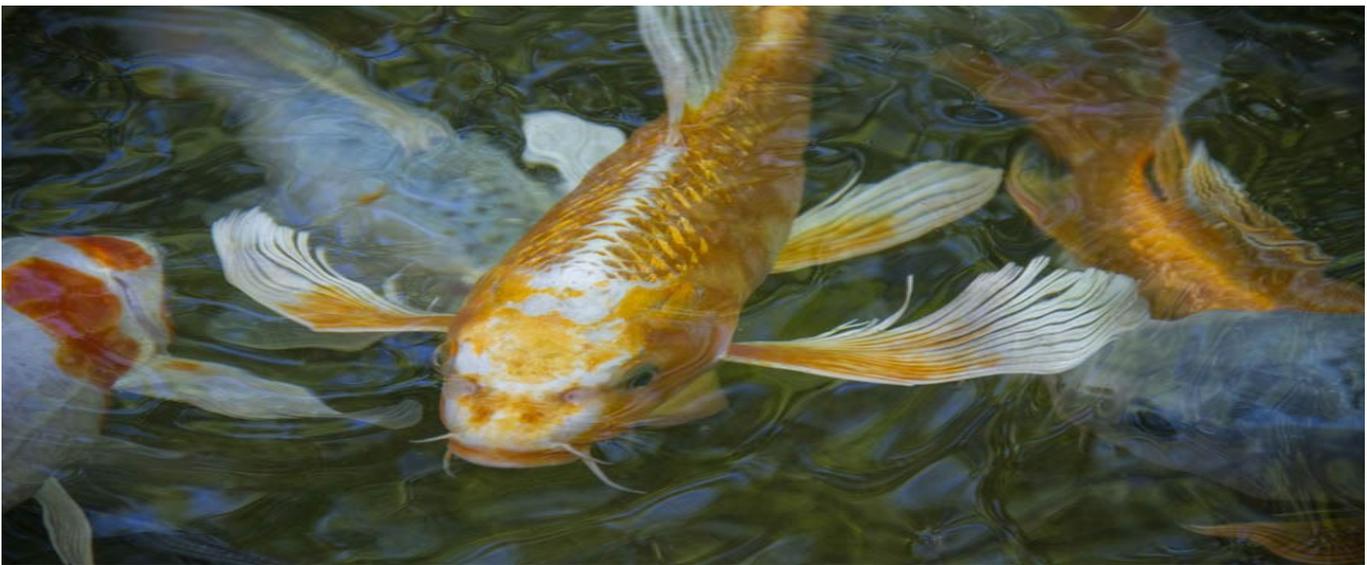
# The Prairieland Splash

Hello 2021!

We still don't know when we can meet this year but don't give up. We will let you know as soon as we know.

Prairieland Koi &  
Pond Society

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**You can pay your dues anytime now, they are still only \$20. What a bargain!**

Please give cash/check to our treasurer:

Or Send To: Letriana Cantrell

311 Arnold Rd.

East Peoria, IL 61611

**Want the club to do better? Apply for one of the positions available on the board. Our club can't survive without volunteers!**

I am so looking forward to 2021. Will we have problems? Sure. But remember if we can keep a pond, we can do anything. Just remember the leak in your pond you fixed, the green algae you battled, the muck you cleaned out so your fish would have a clean place to live. Don't forget when you cleaned out the filters when you were hot and tired, but you did it anyway. We opened ponds in the rain and closed them in the cold, but we did persevere. If we can keep a pond, we can certainly tackle 2021!

Have anyone thought about becoming pond board member. It really is sorta fun and you form some very strong bonds with the other members on the board. I can say my experience on the board has been something I'm so glad I didn't miss out on. If you do have any thoughts about one of the positions, please let me or one of the board know how you feel.

As I sit in my garden house preparing this newsletter, I can't help thinking about many plants that are poisonous to fish. I will send a list from Koi Pond Guy. When I first built my pond I planted morning glories all around the pond. They had done so well and were beautiful until I read how deadly they were to koi. It broke my heart to tear them all out but those seeds really do look about the size of fish food and I just didn't want to chance it. My pond is under an oak, but by netting the pond before acorns fall, and working to keeping it clean, I have been ok. I did see one of my larger koi pick up an acorn as if he ate it . My heart just stopped until he spit it out again.

If anyone has any problem with your pond this year let us know. Maybe we can help maybe not but we sure can try to help you out. So until next month, stay safe, Jeannie

<b>Plant Name</b>	<b>Part</b>
ACOKANTHERA	fruit and flowers
ACONITUM	roots, flowers, and leaves
ALLAMANDA	all parts
ALLSPICE	leaves, seeds
ALOCASIA	leaves and stems
ALOE	leaves
AMARYLLIS	bulbs contain alkaloids
ANENOME	all parts
ANGEL TRUMPET TREE (Datura Arborea)	flowers and leaves
ANTHURIUM	all parts
APPLE	all parts, seeds contain hydrocyanic acid
APRICOT	all parts, seeds contain hydrocyanic acid
ATROPA BELLADONNA	all parts, especially black berries
AUTUMN CROCUS (C. Sativus, Saffron Crocus)	bulbs
AZALEAS (Rhododendorn)	all parts can be fatal
BANEBERRY (Actaea, Doll's Eyes)	red or white berries, roots and foliage
Balsam Pear Seeds	outer rind of fruit (Momordica charantia)
BEACH PEA (Lathyrus Maritimus)	stems
BETEL NUT PALM	all parts
BIRD OF PARADISE BUSH (Caesalpinia)	seeds
BITTERSWEET (Celastrus)	berries
BLACK LOCUST (Robinia Pseudoacacia)	bark, sprouts, and foliage are poisonous
BLACK WALNUT	hulls
BLEEDING HEART (Dicentra, Dutchman's Breeches)	foliage and roots
BLUEBONNETS (Lupinus)	all parts
BOTTLEBRUSH (Callistemon, possibly Melaleuca)	flowers
BOXWOOD (Buxus Sempervirens)	all parts
BUCKEYE (Aesculus, Horse Chestnut)	sprouts and nuts
BUTTERCUP (Ranuculus, Crowfoot)	all parts
CALADIUM	all parts
CALIFORNIA TERN	roots seeds
CALLA LILY (Zantedeschia)	all parts
CARDINAL FLOWER	all parts
CAROLINA JESSAMINE (Gelsemium)	All parts
CASTOR BEAN (Ricinus Communis)	seeds can be fatal
CHERRY	

CHERRY LAUREL (Prunus Varieties)	all parts, seeds contain hydrocyanic acid
CHINABERRY (Melia Azedarach)	berries are poisonous
CHOKER CHERRY	all parts
CHRISTMAS BERRY (Heteromeles Arbutifolia, Toyon)	berries are poisonous
COLOCASIA	all parts
COLUMBINE (Aquilegia)	all parts
COMMON PRIVET (Ligustrum)	black or blue wax coated berries and leaves
CORAL BERRY (Symphoricarpos)	seeds
COTONEASTER	all parts
CROCUS	all bulbs
CROTON	seeds
DAPHNE	berries can be fatal
DAFFODIL (Narcissus)	bulbs may be fatal
DATURA (Brugmansia)	flowers, berries, & seeds
DEATH-CAMAS (Sygadenus Venous)	all parts poisonous, roots are deadly
DEADLY NIGHTSHADE (Solanum Nigrum)	all parts, unripe fruit and foliage
DELPHINIUM (Larkspur annual)	all parts
DESTROYING ANGEL (Amanita Phalloides, Death Cup)	all parts
DIEFFENBACHIA (Dumb Cane)	all parts, especially the sap
DIGITALIS	all parts
DOGWOOD (Cornus)	fruit slightly poisonous
EGGPLANT	all but fruit
ELDERBERRY (Sambucus)	red fruit poisonous, black and blue fruit o.k.
ELEPHANT EAR (Colocasia, Taro, Caladium)	all parts
ENGLISH IVY (Hedera Helix)	berries
EUPHORBIA (Spurge, Gopher Plant, Mole Plant)	roots, sap
FALSE HELLEBORE (Veratrum Viride and other species)	all parts poisonous, root deadly
FOXGLOVE (Digitalis Purpurea)	all parts can be fatal
FLY AGARIC (Fly Amanita Mushroom)	whole plant
FOUR O'CLOCK	whole plant
GELSEMIUM (Carolina Jessamine)	whole plant
GLORIOSA LILY	all parts

GOLDEN CHAIN	seeds and pods may be fatal
HELLEBORE (Ranunculacea)	all parts
HEMLOCK (Tsuga)	all parts, especially roots
HENBANE	all parts
HOLLY (Ilex Aquifolium, Opaca, Vomitoria)	leaves and berries
HONEYSUCKLE	flowers and leaves
HORSE CHESTNUT (Aesculus, Buckeye)	all parts
HORSETAIL (Equisetum Hyemale)	all parts
HYACINTH	bulbs can be fatal
HYDRANGEA	whole plant
IMPATIENS (Balsam, Touch-Me-Not, Snapweed)	whole plant
INDIAN TURNIP	all parts
IRIS	underground stem, leaves, and rhizomes
IVY (Hedera)	all parts
JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT (Arisaema Triphylla)	root is irritant and astringent
JAPANESE LAUREL	all parts
JASMINE, YELLOW	all parts
JAVA (LIMA) BEAN	uncooked bean
JERUSALEM CHERRY (Solanum Pseudocapsicum)	fruit and leaves
JESSAMINE (Gelsemium Sempervirens)	berries are fatal
JIMSON WEED (Datura Stramonium, Thorn Apple)	all parts
LAMBKILL (Kalmia Angustifolia, Sheep Laurel)	leaves
LANTANA CAMARA (Red Sage)	all parts, green berries are fatal
LARKSPUR (Delphinium)	foliage and roots are dangerous, seeds may be fatal

LAUREL (Primus varieties)	all parts can be fatal
LILY (Lilium)	some varieties bulbs
LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY (Convallaria Majalis)	all parts
LOBELIA (Cardinal Flower)	all parts
LOCOWEED (Astragalus, Oxytropis)	all parts
LOCUST	bark,leaves, seeds
LUPINE (Lupinus)	seeds
MACHINEEL	all parts
MARIJUANA	all parts
MAY APPLE (Podophullum)	all parts
MESCAL (Peyote)	all parts
MILKWEED (Asciepias)	all parts, especially sap
MIMOSA	all parts
MISTLETOE	all parts, berries can be fatal
MOCCASIN FLOWER (Lady Slipper, Cypripedium Spectabiles)	all parts
MOCK ORANGE (Philadelphus)	all parts
MONKSHOOD (Aconitum)	foliage and fleshy roots
MORNING GLORIES (Ipomea)	all parts
MOUNTAIN LAUREL (Kalmia Latifolia)	young leaves and shoots, can be fatal
MUSHROOMS	wild types
MUSTARD	roots and seeds
NARCISSUS (Daffodil)	bulbs can be fatal
NATAL CHERRY (Solanum)	berries
NICOTIANA (Flowering Tobacco)	leaves
NIGHTSHADE (European Bittersweet, Horse Nettle)	all, especially unripe berries
OAK	foliage and acorns
OLEANDER (Nerium Oleander)	All parts poisonous including smoke if burned
PEACH see Cherry Laurel,	seeds
PEAR see Cherry Laurel,	seeds
PEONY (Paeonia)	all parts
PERIWINKLE (Vinca, Myrtle)	whole plant
PHILODENDREN	leaves and sap
PINE	sap
PINKS (Sweet William, Carnation, Dianthus)	all parts
PLUM see Cherry Laurel,	seeds
POKEWEED (Phytolacca, Pokeberry)	roots are dangerous

POINSETTIA (Euphorbia Pulcherrima)	all parts, leaves and sap can be fatal
POISON IVY (Rhus Radicans)	all parts
POISON OAK (Rhus Diversioba, Rhus Toxicodendron)	all parts
POPPY (Papaver)	all except California Poppy can be dangerous
POTATO	sprouts and foliage can be fatal particularly ornamental varieties
PRIVET (Ligustrum)	leaves and fruit
PRUNUS (many varieties)	seeds, some parts
RANUNCULUS	all parts
REDWOOD	sap, (from decks also)
RHODODENDRON (Azalea)	all parts can be fatal
RHUBARB (Rhenum Rhaponticum)	all parts
ROSEMARY (Rosemaria Officinalis)	leaves of certain varieties are poisonous
SAGE (Salvia)	leaves of certain varieties are poisonous
SCOTCHBROOM (Cytinus Scoparious)	seeds, invasive
SENECIO	whole plant of some species
SNAPDRAGON (Antirrhinum)	all parts
SNOWDROP (Galanthus)	all parts
SOLANUM (Nightshade)	all, especially some berries
SQUIRREL CORN (Dicentra Canadensis, Bleeding Heart)	all parts
STRAMONIUM (Jimson Weed, Datura)	all parts
SUMAC (Rhus)	all parts
SWEET PEA (Lathyrus)	stems
TANSY (Tanacetum)	all parts
TARO (Colocasia, Elephant's Ear)	stem and leaves
TIGER LILY (Lilium Tigrinum)	all parts
TOADSTOOLS	can be fatal
TOBACCO	all parts
TOMATO	foliage and vines
TRUMPET VINE	all parts
TULIP (Tulipa)	bulbs of some varieties
VINCA (PERIWINKLE)	all parts
YEW	foliage, bark, seeds

# Do You Know These Koi Facts?

Koi add color and movement to your pond. They're relaxing to watch. And they're likely the centerpiece of your water feature. But how much do you really know about your finned friends? Check out these five factoids about koi and impress your fish-keeping pals during your next pond-side shindig.

1. **A Long Life Span:** Have you heard of Hanako? He's the fabled koi who lived for 226 years after being supposedly passed down through the generations and was aged by counting rings on his scales. To set the record straight, Hanako has been proven to be an urban myth. Koi typically live 25 to 35 years in a well-maintained fish pond - but that's still not a bad life span, all things considered!
2. **Growth spurts:** Koi, like most other fish, start out as teeny-tiny fingerlings and grow to their genetically determined adult size. But unlike many fish, koi will grow to fit their accommodations - which means they'll develop into super-sized beasts in the right environment. In their first three to four years of life when housed in an adequately sized pond, a koi will reach about 18 inches long. Throughout its lifetime, it can grow to reach up to 3 feet and more. That's some big fish!

**Colorful Gastronomes:** The ultimate underwater foodies, koi will eat just about anything, with the exception of meat. Though they love their pelleted diet, like [The Pond Guy Growth & Vibrance Fish Food](#), koi will happily gobble down lettuce, apples, oranges, watermelon, and even tiny shrimp. So why not treat your scaly pals to some healthy fruits and veggies now and then!

1. **Feast and Famine:** Koi love to eat and will chow whenever food is offered, but these guys can actually go more than 10 days without food during the warmer months - and fast even longer when temperatures drop and they go into their winter torpor, or hibernation, when they pass on meals for months at a time. Of course, if you feed your fish regularly, don't suddenly stop as doing so can affect their health and happiness.
2. **Koi Agility?** No, koi unfortunately cannot be trained to jump through hoops like a dolphin or fetch a floating ball like a Labrador, but they can be conditioned to recognize your footsteps and come to the water's edge for a visit. Simply feed your fish from the same place consistently and, before long, they'll learn to go there for food and even learn to eat from your hand! Now that's a cool party trick.
3. **Do they drink the water?**
4. You would think that your koi need a drink of water like the desert needs another grain of sand but just like us; they too need a little refreshment from time to time. Koi utilize water to maintain proper body functions the same as us but they just do it a little bit differently. Koi don't per say "drink" like we do. Koi absorb water through their gills and body in a process called osmosis.
5. Osmosis is defined by dictionary.com as "the tendency of a fluid, usually water, to pass through a semipermeable membrane into a solution where the solvent concentration is higher, thus equalizing the concentrations of materials on either side of the membrane." In other words, koi have larger concentrations of water that contain salt in their body than does the surrounding water garden. Through osmosis water is constantly passing through koi's semipermeable skin into their body to equalize these concentrations. Since water is constantly absorbing into their bodies they have to immediately excrete this water to prevent them from bursting. During the course of a day, they can excrete up to 10 times their weight.

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