

# The Prairieland Splash

## POND CLUB TOUR

July 9, 2022

Everyone is welcome and only \$5.00 a ticket. Get your tickets at Greenview, Hoerr's and Kull Scape

Or purchase on paypal @  
christianrath@gmail.com

Prairieland Koi &  
Pond Society

July 09, 2022  
Vol 22, issue 6

**You can pay your dues now, they are still only \$20 !**

Please give cash/check to our treasurer:

Or Send To: Marlene Carter

2324 W. Sherman Ave.

West Peoria, IL 61614

# KOI STORY

## GOOD ALGAE?

Like anything in life, balance is key. Algae is fine in small amounts, but when you get too much, it becomes a problem. Algae is a normal function of a koi pond. Though it can be unsightly at the surface, it is normal to have some algae on the sides of the pond or even on the bottom. This algae can actually benefit the pond by keeping nitrate and other nutrient levels in check. Algae can also become a snack for koi fish. And in small amounts, algae can actually add oxygen into the

## SEASON OF THE GREEN

It is normal for some algae to appear in spring, though summer is the true season of the algae. Sometimes it can seem to appear in the pond out of nowhere. This is called an algal bloom and is caused by direct sunlight, warm weather, and fish waste. Other factors include decaying organic material, such as an animal carcass, or chemical overflow from a neighbor's fertilizer. High concentrations of nutrients in the water combined with insufficient filtration, a too-high pH level, and a possibility of standing water can cause algal blooms in any koi pond.

No matter the cause, when excessive algae appears in your koi pond, oxygen levels drop rapidly. This is a problem because a) your koi need oxygenated pond water and b) the hot summertime algae season is also a time of the year when koi need more oxygen to breathe.

## AVOIDING ALGAE

Preventative steps may be taken to avoid algal blooms. First, [provide shade for your pond](#). Strong and direct sunlight can aid algal blooms. Add foliage, pond plants, or consider building a pergola. Proper filtration will also reduce your risk of an algal bloom. Perform regular maintenance checks and ensure that there is no standing water in the pond – standing water increases the chances of algae buildup. If you believe your water is not circulating, consider adding a fountain or a waterfall. This will promote both aeration and movement within the pond water.

Because algae grows more rapidly in warmer water, consider adding depth to your pond. A deeper pond will remain cooler in the warm and sunny months and will accumulate less algae.

As a last resort, turn to algaecides. These are chemical products sold in the U.S. and registered under the Environmental Protection Agency, though improper usage could kill off your pond plants and possibly some koi.

And keep careful watch of the pH levels in the pond. Algae favors higher pH levels. Another way to prevent algae blooms is with a partial water change. Drain off a tenth of the pond water and add the new water slowly to prevent a shock in the koi.

I do hope you try and attend the pond tour. We have ponds put in by the owners, ponds put in by landscapers, and some ponds that were inherited when they bought a new house. Each one is different from the other. A really great pond tour. I want to add that each pond owner has put in many hours of work to let you see their yard at its best. Then there are the people of the club who have given so many hours of effort so signs are made and delivered. I want to thank each one. Their pond may not be on the tour but they have dedicated a lot of effort to make it as successful as possible. Remember that all proceeds go to Midwest Food Bank.

I hope you read the article on green water algae. If you don't have it now, you will at some time in your pond life. I know you don't want to hear it but a little water change does wonders. I just water my plants

On another subject, this is my last year as president. It isn't because I don't like working with this board, they are wonderful, but I want to do some things especially with my 5yr grandson, travel now that I am older, and be able to befriend other older people who may need a little extra help. Besides the board doesn't really let me boss them anyway!

Let me know how your ponds are coming along and any wonderful things and some not so wonderful things.

My black and white sparkly butterfly committed suicide on Friday 13. My first impulse was "I loved Stripe" but my second thought was that my grandson and I could pick out some new little fish from Larry Zehr. It was a blast and Larry was so patient with him especially when Spencer told Larry that he really like his car. Ha I now have 5 new babies. Just like potato chips, you can't pick just one.

The Luau date is being changed to September. Place and exact date will follow. It should be the 4th week. We will give you the information in the next August newsletter.

# PrairieLand Koi & Pond Society – 2022 Pond Tour

Tour some of the most beautiful backyard ponds and water features in the area

- Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 9am to 5pm
- Self guided. Explore at your own pace!
- Only \$5 per adult to attend. Children are free
- Tickets available at Kull Scape, Green View & Hoerr Nursery.
- Proceeds donated to the Midwest Food Bank

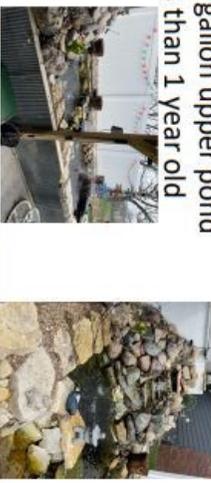
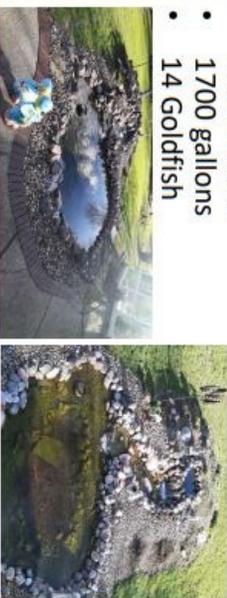
**Learn about...**

- Water feature design, construction & maintenance
- Fish care, products & plants for your next paradise!
- What the PrairieLand Koi & Pond Society has to offer

**KULL SCAPE**  
OUTDOOR LIVING, INC.

**GV**  
GREEN VIEW

**HOERR**  
NURSERY

<p><b>Todd &amp; Cheryl's - Tremont</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built 2009</li> <li>• Reconstructed 2015</li> <li>• Two filters/waterfalls</li> <li>• 10 foot stream</li> <li>• 300 gallon upper pond</li> <li>• ~2000 gallon main pond</li> </ul> 	<p><b>DeDecker/Zogas Koi - Peoria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cantilevered stone patio overhang</li> <li>• 4500 gallons</li> <li>• 32 tons of stone</li> <li>• 2 tiered waterfalls</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Rath's Deck Pond - Dunlap</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5000 gallons</li> <li>• 3 waterfalls</li> <li>• 13 Koi, 8"-20"</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Steve's Koi Pond - Pekin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4000 gallons</li> <li>• 3 feet deep</li> <li>• Functional Bridge</li> <li>• Four waterfalls</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Judy's Pond - Chillicothe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterfall</li> <li>• 15' x 8'. 3 1/2 ft deep</li> <li>• Diverse, lush plants</li> </ul> 	<p><b>The Pond by The Lake - Peoria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterfall into 1300 gallon lower pond</li> <li>• 200 gallon upper pond</li> <li>• Less than 1 year old</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Riopell's Pond - Washington</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built in 2004</li> <li>• 1700 gallons</li> <li>• 14 Goldfish</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Ivey's Koi Pond - Pekin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 update to 4200 gallons</li> <li>• Two-tier waterfall</li> <li>• Functional bridge!!</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Kolowski Pond – Hanna City</b></p> <p><b>OPENS AT 2PM!!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6500 gallons</li> <li>• 56 Goldfish &amp; Koi</li> <li>• ...visit Francine the frog!!</li> </ul> 

[http://prairieland\\_pondstour.com](http://prairieland_pondstour.com) : PayPal \$5 to [christianrath@gmail.com](mailto:christianrath@gmail.com) to receive your electronic ticket or call Christian at 309-212-9050 : Addresses provided with paid ticket

## **2022 General Meetings**

July 9	Pond Tour	
August 13	Todd & Cheryl Bong	Stuber Landscape
September 10	Greenview Nursery?	
October 8		
November 12	Tremont Community Banquet	PKPS Banquet

## **2022 Board Meetings:**

July 23	Jeannie
August 27	Moreland
September 24	Simmons
October 22	Christian Rath
November 19	Moreland

# *Prairieland Koi & Pond Society*

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