



LANDSCAPING LIFESTYLES



2600 Taft Hwy • Bakersfield, CA 93313 • (661) 836-3825 • July, 2010

Volume 3 Issue 8

8am - Pond Building Seminar
Watch us install a pond from start to finish in less than a day!

POND FEST

Saturday, July 10th

9am - "Bonsai 101" Seminar
10am - "Everything Koi" Seminar

WIN an 8'x11' Pond Kit

10% Off All Pond kits, Fish & Aquatic plants

BBQ Lunch By the "Mayor of Pumpkin Center"

BUCK'S LANDSCAPE MATERIALS AND POND SHOP
www.buckslandscapematerials.com
(661) 836-3825 2600 Taft Highway

Proceeds will benefit a local church youth group

Dont Miss PondFest!
July 10th
Call, click, or stop by for more info.

PondFest!

This is it. Our big event. Saturday, July 10th is the date and Buck's is the place to be. This will be a fun filled day of educational seminars, turtle adoptions, discounts, barbecue, and more. If you've got a pond or want a pond then don't miss PondFest. [Sign up to the event on Facebook](#)



Summer Pond Cleaning Tips

Like it or not summer is officially here and the 100 plus temperatures are well on their way. The water is warming up, the fish are active, and the plants are blooming. It's a great time to do a little work in your pond. Here are a few tips on what you can do this summer to help beautify your pond and prepare for those nasty algae blooms.

Add Some Plants

Add Some Plants

The best way to deal with algae is to add some nice, hardy plants like water lilies, taros, pickerels, or rushes. Plants will compete with the algae for nutrients, shade your fish from the dreadful sun, and add an aesthetically pleasing look to your pond. (Plants are 10% off during PondFest July 10th)

Do a Water Change

Right now is a good time to get rid of some excess debris that has been building up in your pond since the winter. By changing out about 50% of your water (don't forget the de-chlorinator) you remove a lot of the harmful debris that could lead to serious algae blooms or even fish health problems. Some koi enthusiasts might suggest doing weekly water changes.

Clean your Filters

Mechanical filters, like skimmers, bead filters, and leaf baskets, should be cleaned on a regular basis, but now is a good time to clean your biological filters. A brief rinse will allow you to remove a lot of debris without removing too much of the beneficial bacteria that is so helpful to your pond. Biological filters should be cleaned about 3-4 times a year for optimal use.

Run Your Pump

In order to save on electricity, some people only run their pump a few hours a day. As the water warms up, it has a harder time retaining oxygen, which is very important for fish, plant, and bacteria life.

Treat String Algae

Sometimes the best thing to get rid of string algae is to just pull it out. If that doesn't work, then there are a couple of products you can use to get rid of algae. The first product is called EcoBlast. This fish and plant safe algaecide is great at removing string algae from ponds, streams, and waterfalls. It's a topical treatment that works in a localized area. The next product would be AlgaeFix. This product can be deadly to your fish if you do not apply it as instructed. For more information on what algaecide will be best for you call, click, or stop by and we'll help you out.

Pond Measurements and Rules of thumb

How many fish can my pond hold? How many gallons are in my pond? What size of pump do I need? How much do I feed my fish?

These are just a few of the most often asked questions from our pond customers. If you are looking for the answer to one of these questions, then we can help. The following measurements and rules of thumb are general recommendations from professionals within the pond industry.

Fish Load

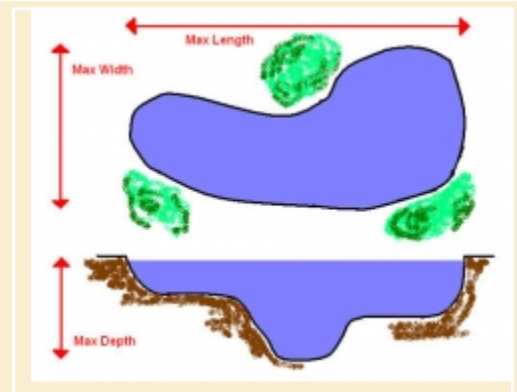
The recommended fish load is about 1" of fish per square foot of pond.

Example: A 10'x15' pond can accommodate about 150" of fish which is about ten 15" fish.

Fish Feeding

A healthy feeding regiment for most koi and goldfish is once or twice a day and only feed them what they will eat for 5 minutes. Not enough food can make them vulnerable to health risks and anything left behind can be harmful to the water quality.

Plant Load



Plant Load

About half the pond should be covered with various plant life. Aquatic plants compete with algae for nutrients. More plants=less algae.

Water Volume

Average Length (ft) x Average Width (ft) x Average Depth (ft) x 7.48 (gallons/cu. ft) = _____gallons

Taking the longest of each side (L,W,D) will only give you a false measurement. This could be harmful to the fish/plants when applying any chemicals to the water.

Pump Size

The recommended flow rate of most ponds should be about one full circulation of pond volume per hour.

Example: A 500 gallon pond should have at least a 500gph pump circulating the water.

Pump Operation Cost

[Volts x Amps x 24 (hours of operation) / 1000] x .13 = Cost for a 24 hour period of time

Example: One of our 3000gph AquaSurge™ Pumps operate on 120V and 1.5A which gives it an operation cost of \$.56 a day.

Water Quality Levels

pH: 7.2-8.3

Temperature: 65°-80°F

Ammonia: Less than .5ppm

Nitrite: Less than .25ppm

Salinity: .1% to .25%

Dissolved Oxygen: 8ppm @ 70°F

Hardness: 100-300ppm

Pond Liner Size

Sizing your pond liner requires knowing the longest length, the widest width, and the deepest depth. Then plug those numbers into this equation and you'll have your measurements. The two feet added to each side just ensures that you don't come up short.

Length= length + (2 x depth) + 2

Width= width + (2 x depth) + 2

Example: A 15' length x 10' width x 2' depth pond would need a liner size of 21' x 16'

Fun Facts

- There are more than 1,000 varieties of tomatoes currently being grown in the U.S.
- Cool as a cucumber? It's true ... the inside of a cucumber on the vine measures as much as 20 degrees cooler than the outside air on a warm day.
- Potatoes are the most popular vegetable among Americans. Second and third place go to head lettuce and onions, respectively.
- Asparagus and rhubarb are the only vegetables that can reproduce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year.
- A snail can sleep for 3 years.
- A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.
- Mosquitoes are attracted to the color blue more than any other color.

Fun Facts gathered from:

http://www.citynews.ca/blogs/frankieflowers_8819.aspx

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