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### DBG Spring Plant Sale Denver Botanic Gardens

Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

### CWGS Annual Plant Swap Plant Society Building, DBG

Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Potluck  
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Plant Swap

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Online at:  
[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

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2012 CWGS Annual Plant Swap at Denver Botanic Gardens, (photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)

## 2013 CWGS Annual Plant Swap & Potluck

by Vicki Aber

We had a great Get Wet Event. A big thank you to the various vendors who did an outstanding job sharing their ideas on how to bring various tropical plants and elements into our backyards and ponds. The pictures were so colorful and inviting, I can't wait for summer. Also, being able to escape the snow and cold for just a little while sure was nice. As usual, the door prizes were a big hit. If you weren't able to come, you missed out on a great beginning to the water gardening season.

Our next meeting is the Annual Plant Swap. This year's swap will take place on the evening of Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The swap always turns into a great time. We'll start with a shared potluck supper at 6:00 pm. If you can't get there in time for the food, that's ok; just come for the swap at about 7:00 pm. We'll be meeting at the Plant Society Building located within Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG). For those of you joining us for the potluck, bring a favorite dish to share. The Club provides drinks and tableware.

DBG's Plant Society Building is located at the West end of the staff parking lot and drive. The building is immediately adjacent to the new Bonsai Garden and Pavilion. From inside the pedestrian are of DBG, the Plant Society Building is reached by walking through the sliding gate at the end of the greenhouse structure and West Terrace.

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**2013 Board of Directors:**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>           |              |
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| Peter Hier (MAL7)          | 303.278.2106 |
| Bill Bathurst (MAL8)       | 303.421.1144 |
| Fran Hoffman (MAL9)        | 303.978.0124 |

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[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

**CWGS Treasurer's Report:**  
Balance as of May 1, 2013  
\$10,202.38.

**2013 Committee and Event Chairs:**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b>               |              |
| Dorothy Martinez                       | 303.279.3137 |
| <b>Membership</b>                      |              |
| Ken Lange                              | 303.393.8410 |
| Dorothy Martinez                       | 303.279.3137 |
| <b>Publicity &amp; Outreach</b>        |              |
| Jim Arneill                            | 303.843.9619 |
| Brenda Parsons-Hier                    | 303.278.2106 |
| <b>Get Wet Event</b>                   |              |
| Jim Arneill                            | 303.843.9619 |
| <b>CWGS June Plant Sale</b>            |              |
| Vicki Aber                             | 303.423.9216 |
| Janet Bathurst                         | 303.421.1144 |
| Brenda Parsons-Hier                    | 303.278-2106 |
| Bob Hoffman                            | 303.978.0124 |
| Fran Hoffman                           | 303.978.0124 |
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| <b>Pond Tour / Picnic</b>              |              |
| Bob Hoffman                            | 303.978.0124 |
| Fran Hoffman                           | 303.978.0124 |
| Dorothy Martinez                       | 303.279.3137 |
| <b>Water Blossom Festival</b>          |              |
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| <b>Holiday Banquet</b>                 |              |
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| Sandi Berenbaum                        | 303.322.6769 |
| <b>WebPage / Archives</b>              |              |
| Dorothy Martinez                       | 303.279.3137 |
| Bill Bathurst                          | 303.421.1144 |
| Janet Bathurst                         | 303.421.1144 |
| <b>DBG Plant Sale &amp; Volunteers</b> |              |
| Bob Hoffman                            | 303-978-0124 |
| Bill Powell                            | 303.355.8098 |
| Brenda Parsons-Hier                    | 303.278.2106 |

**Remember...**

Unless you have specifically requested receipt of The WaterGarden in paper form, you will receive it electronically.

To request a change in delivery, report a change in email, or to report a problem with downloading of the electronic journal, reply to Dorothy Martinez:

[dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org](mailto:dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org).



2012 CWGS Annual Plant Swap, (Photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)



2012 CWGS Annual Plant Swap, (Photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)



DBG Spring Plant Sale, (Photo courtesy of [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org))

## Plant Swap 2013

(continued from front page)

Here's how the plant swap works:

1. Identify a plant or plants that need dividing in your pond. Keep what you want and bring the excess to the swap.
2. Bring the plants to the swap.
3. Share everything you know about the plant - how it grows for you, if it blooms, what color and when, how big it gets, and anything else you think the new owner would like to know about your plant.
4. After everyone has shared information about their offerings, you get to pick one new plant for every plant you brought. You go home with new plants, all free, AND you are already an expert on the growing requirements of your new plant(s).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Vicki Aber at 303-423-9216.

## Upcoming Denver Botanic Gardens' Spring Plant Sale

by Bob Hoffman

The Denver Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Sale will be taking place on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> opening at 8:00 am and closing at 5:00 pm both days. I want to thank all thirty CWGS volunteers who signed up to work the sale. I'm hoping for good weather, not like the snow falling outside my window right now. As you know, we are into the weekly weather pattern where we get some sort of moisture, so I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

Most of the plants have arrived, been planted, and are growing out in the DBG greenhouse, so they should look good for the sale. There will be many tubers available that were divided from DBG plants and stored over the winter. I hope to see many of you at the sale and thanks again for supporting the sale. The Aquatics Plants' booth will be located near Marnie's Pavilion.

For a list of plants, please go to DBG's website at:

[http://www.botanicgardens.org/sites/default/files/2013plantcatalog\\_1.pdf](http://www.botanicgardens.org/sites/default/files/2013plantcatalog_1.pdf), the Aquatic Plants are listed starting on Page 5

For a map of where various plants will be located, please go to DBG's website at:

[http://www.botanicgardens.org/sites/default/files/2013plantsale\\_sitemap.pdf](http://www.botanicgardens.org/sites/default/files/2013plantsale_sitemap.pdf)

## Annual CWGS June Plant Sale is Coming Up Fast!

by Vicki Aber

The Annual CWGS Plant Sale takes place Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Denver Botanic Gardens. The Plant Sale will again be located at the West Terrace area.

CWGS members can begin shopping at 9:00 am and the public at 10:00 am. We will have a large supply of both commercially purchased plants and divisions from members' gardens. We will have hardy and tropical lilies and hardy and tropical marginal plants. Maybe even a few lotus. There will be something for everyone!

Speaking of plants from members' gardens, we need your extra plants! If you have plants to donate, it is best if you can bring them Saturday, June 1st between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm. If you can't bring them Saturday, contact one of the plant sale committee members listed at the end of this article. If at all possible, include a label with the name of the plant (either scientific or common name). For lilies include the name of the variety or, if you don't know, list the color of the flower and any other information you have.

It takes a lot of people to stage our annual sale. We will need lots of help on Saturday, June 1st unpacking, labeling, and setting up. We will start work at 9:00 am. There will be coffee and donuts for workers.

We will work until set-up is finished on Saturday but are usually done by 3:00 pm at the latest. If we work through the noon hour (as we usually do), lunch will be provided. We welcome volunteers for any amount of time you can spare.

We can also use volunteers to help on sale day (Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>). We need the largest number of helpers first thing at 8:00 am to do the last minute set-up and staging. The plus of working early is once the sale is set up, you get first dibs on the plants!

We will also need people for the rest of the day to help with running the sale. The sale officially ends at 2:00 pm, but we often start packing up before then if we aren't getting any more customers or the plants are mostly sold.

We will provide drinks, donuts, and lunch on Sunday, June 2nd as well. The best news for volunteers either day is you earn two "lily bucks" for each hour you work. Lily bucks can be used for your purchases at the sale! If you can help at the sale please contact one of the following:

Vicki Aber (303-423-9216), docvicki@msn.com  
Janet Bathurst (303-421-1144), jebathurst@aol.com  
Dorothy Martinez (303-279-3137), dam@johnfunk.com  
Brenda Parsons-Hier (303-278-2106), moose.4bph@q.com  
Bob & Fran Hoffmam (303-978-0124), koihoffman@yahoo.com



## Spring Pond Keeping

by Orest Protch

*Reprinted from the Spring 2008 edition of Ponds Magazine, published by Fancy Publications, a division of Bow Tie Inc.*



(Photo courtesy of Chris Kelly, Ponds)

We survived another winter. Though some pond keepers breeze through winter with summerlike conditions, many shovel snow and wait for ponds to defrost. A lot of things might have occurred in your pond during the winter, depending on your location and your overwintering choices. Cooler water temperatures can cause problems that do not appear until the pond runs again. Even drained ponds might experience problems similar to an undrained water feature. Before starting spring pond rejuvenation, assume the worst:

- You overfed your fish, and the uneaten or undigested food is in the water.
- Fish waste, in the form of ammonia, increased in concentration because the cold water lowered or stopped biofilter efficiency.
- Drained ponds or those exposed to direct sunlight and UV rays had their plastic liners' integrity compromised due to the chemical reaction between UV and plasticizers.
- Above- and below-surface water piping, mechanical filters, biofilters and pumps are cracked because of expanding water forming into ice.
- The pond foam is due to proteins from uneaten or undigested food.

Take precautions now to prevent the introduction or increase of damage. Follow these steps to prevent problems caused by winter weather:

1. Start doing partial water changes of about 10 percent a week to dilute the food source available to algae, dilute the ammonia concentration and help prevent pond foam.
2. Look for weakened or cracked liner locations. Heavy rocks can stretch the liner underneath them. Likewise, if a rock dislodged from the sides of the pond it might have rolled down and hit the frozen liner on the bottom. Use caution when walking on the liner or when moving heavy rocks in the pond.
3. Once you know air temperatures will remain above freezing during the day, you can start up your water fountains and waterfalls to get warmer water circulating through the pond to help melt the ice cap. If nights remain cool, turn these systems off at night to prevent super-cooled pond water that can kill your fish.

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## Spring Pond Keeping

(continued from page 5)



**Funk/Martinez Pond in Winter,** (Photo courtesy of Dorothy Martinez)

4. Check for any changes in local bylaws. Call the city office to find out if your pond now needs a fence around it. Contact your insurance company as well to see if they require a rider attached to your policy for liability against accidents.
5. If your water feature includes electricity, check for damage from animals and environment. Are the underground gas, power and telephone lines marked? Are they still underground? Check above-ground electrics such as circuit breakers and ground fault interrupters.
6. Trim shrubs and trees as needed. Good indicators are if they provide too much shade for your pond or if the leaves keep blowing into the water.
7. Take a look at the pumps. Check impellers, wiring, intakes and outflows. Are they plugged with leaves or algae clumps? Also look for frayed wires that can cause a shock.
8. Wash or replace the filters. Check secondary coverings if you use them to hide the filters from view. If they are falling apart, they can fall into the filter and plug it.
9. Blow hoses and tubing clear. Repair any leaks you discover.
10. Replace air stones. Clean devices and repair diaphragms in your aerators.
11. Check UV clarifier gaskets to make sure water cannot get inside them. Repair them with rubberized glue, or replace them if needed.
12. For UV clarifiers, it is time to replace the bulb. Check the wiring for frays and the quartz glass for scratches that can weaken it.
13. Examine the wiring on your submerged lights, replace the bulbs and check the ground fault interrupters.
14. Patch concrete as needed.
15. Repair and replace edgings as needed.
16. Look over your bird and leaf nets. Do some of them need to be repaired? Is it time to replace them? Are you ready to remove them?
17. Sort through your pond plants. Now is the time to trim them back, replant as necessary and consider replacing or at least removing those you lost.
18. If your pond sand and gravel look dire, replace them. If they can be salvaged, vacuum and pressure wash them.

Spring is a time for rejuvenation, not only for your garden, but also for your waterscape. Neglect can lead to future problems and diminished enjoyment. Get the bulk of your maintenance done as soon as possible to extend the total days of enjoying your pond.

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## Spring Pond Keeping

(continued from page 6)

### Fish Concerns

If you can see your fish in the spring pond, look closely at their condition. Winter can cause these ailments:

**Fin rot** – Fins and tail appear to be rotting off, with red areas around fins.

**Treatment** – Clean up pond water and treat with rot medicines.

**Fish leach** – Skin examination shows wormlike leaches.

**Treatment** – Place fish in a container with 15 tablespoons of salt per 2 gallons of water for 30 minutes.

**Fish lice** – Red spots turn into ulcerations.

**Treatment** – Give fish 30 minute baths of .1 gram potassium permanganate per 2 gallons of water. Treat the entire pond if you cannot catch all the individual fish.

**Fish pox** – Pink, white or gray spots on the skin. This often occurs in spring.

**Treatment** – General pond cleaning.

**Fungus** – Cottonlike growths on the skin.

**Treatment** – Treat the entire pond. Fungus usually attacks weak fish.

**Gill flukes** – Parasites can cause fish to rub against objects, rapidly move their gills and gasp at the water surface.

**Treatment** – Organic-phosphorus-based medicines, or those designed for the gills, might work. Copper-based chemicals kill any invertebrates, such as crayfish, clams and freshwater shrimp, in your pond.

**Gill rot** – Fish appear lethargic and display red and swollen gills, mucus around gills or bleeding gills.

**Treatment** – A salt dip of 2 tablespoons per gallon of water, or antibiotics.

**Sliminess** – Fins are held tight against the body and the fish rub against objects. Slimy coating can be on eyes. It is caused by too much ammonia in the water.

**Treatment** – Test the water and treat it with water changes and medications.

**Ulcerations** – Red sores on the body.

**Treatment** – Purchase a painted on medication. Also put fish into a container with 2 tablespoons of salt per gallon of water.

**Whitespot** – Pinhead-sized white spots on the body, this is extremely contagious.

**Treatment** – Treat the entire pond over several days to kill free-swimming parasites.



Funk/Martinez Koi, (Photo courtesy of John Funk)



Funk/Martinez Koi, (Photo courtesy of John Funk)



Funk/Martinez Koi, (Photo courtesy of John Funk)

## Special thanks to the following for being part of Get Wet 2013

### Participating vendors:

*Enerly Water Gardens  
Highlands Garden Center  
Jared's Nursery & Garden Center  
Nick's Garden Center & Farm Market  
Rocky Mountain WaterScape  
Ron's Golden Ponds  
Tagawa Gardens  
True Pump & Equipment*

### Our presenters for Get Wet:

*Bob Hoffman– Colorado Water Garden Society  
Dee Beckman – Tagawa Gardens  
LeighAnn Brown – Nick's Garden Center & Farm Market  
Andy Humphrey – Jared's Nursery & Garden Center  
Diane Ross – Enerly Water Gardens  
Tim Boettcher – True Pump & Equipment  
Tamara Kilbane – Denver Botanic Gardens  
Jim Arneill – Colorado Water Garden Societv*

### Participating educational societies:

*Colorado Water Garden Society  
Denver Botanic Gardens  
Rocky Mountain Koi Club*

**Many thanks to everyone who helped make this event happen and thank you to everyone who attended this year's event!**

**We're off to a great start . . .**

## New & Returning Members for April 2013

**Vicki & Dan Aber**  
*Arvada, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Chuck Howell**  
*Englewood, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Gary & Joyce Blubaugh**  
*Lakewood, CO*

*(Returning)*

**James Howell**  
*Denver, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Ben Coleman**  
*Longmont, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Carla Littlefield**  
*Denver, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Mike & Susie Hawes**  
*Englewood, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Gail & Joe Pizzi**  
*Centennial, CO*

*(NEW!/Returning)*

**Jonathan & April Hough**  
*Boulder, CO*

*(Returning)*

**Gary & Judy Reid**  
*Boulder, CO*

*(Returning)*





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For a copy of the Colorado Water Garden Society Membership Form, please go to:  
<http://www.colowatergardensociety.org/files/ItemFileB75.pdf> or request a copy from Dorothy Martinez at 303-279-3137  
Membership Fees are \$15 Annually for an Individual and \$20 Annually for a Family  
Please make checks payable to "Colorado Water Garden Society"

## THIS YEAR

*A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:*

**May 10 & May 11: DBG Spring Plant Sale**  
**Denver Botanic Gardens**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**May 16: Potluck & CWGS Annual Plant Swap**  
**Plant Society Building**  
**Denver Botanic Gardens**

*6:00 PM – Potluck*

*7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Plant Swap*

**June 2: Annual Plant Sale – West Terrace, DBG, Members only**  
*9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, General Public 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*

**June 22: Pond Side Program – Bathurst Residence, Arvada, CO,**  
*2:00 PM – 4:00 PM*

**July 20: Annual Pond Tour & Picnic – Southwest Littleton,**  
*Lakewood, and Denver, Tour 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM, Picnic 4:00 PM*  
*at Hudson Gardens*

**August 10: Water Blossom Festival, Monet Water Garden**  
*Area/Plant Society Building, DBG, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*

**August 17: Leaf Casting Seminar/Class – Martinez/Funk**  
*Residence, Golden, CO, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM*

**August 24: Pond Side Program – Martinez/Funk Residence,**  
*Golden, CO, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM*

**Sept. 19: Potluck & Annual Board Elections – Plant Society**  
*Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM*

**Oct. 17: Potluck & Planning Meeting – Plant Society Building,**  
*DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM*

**Dec. 19: Holiday Banquet and Volunteer Recognition – Plant**  
*Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM*



From...

**TheWaterGarden**  
c/o Journal Editor  
14837 W. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Golden, CO 80403-3001

*The Colorado Water Garden Society (CWGS) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 1983 to encourage appreciation and interest in the use of water in the landscape.*

To learn more, visit us at  
[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

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