



# The NWG FROGGER!

## Newsletter

### Fall pond Preparation



### Froggy Bucks!

Remember to redeem all of those Froggy Bucks you have received this year. (only bucks from 2010) This is our way of showing you our appreciation for your continual support of Natural Water Gardens retail center. Redeem Froggy Bucks between Oct 1-16 on in-store merchandise only. Froggy Bucks are a matching program. Example: If you have \$20 in Froggy Bucks, we will take \$20 off any sale \$40 or higher, \$10 in Froggy Bucks will be taken off any sale of \$20 or higher and so on. Kenny **THANKS** everyone for stopping by our Retail Center. We all appreciate your patronage.



### Retail Store Hours

Monday thru Friday 10-5

Saturday/9-3 Sunday/11-3

**Retail center will be closed Nov. to March?**

Cover your water features with netting to keep leaves out of the pond. Create a tent over the pond not allowing the net to settle into pond from the weight of the leaves. Net may be left on your water feature over the winter if you wish. (Check pond netting on web site)

Over the past few years, we have experimented with several ways of protecting our fish in ponds during the winter months. Due to the fact that we all have a tendency to have too many or too large of fish in our ponds, we started leaving pumps in the skimmer box and adding a 10'-12' piece of flex PVC to it. This allows us to discharge pond water directly back into the pond, by passing the falls and stream. Also adding an aerator to the pond helps stratify the water. This method has worked better than any for us over the past 7-8 test years. Give it a try, or we would be happy to help you set this up. Just give us a



call.

Another way of protecting your fish and getting a jump on spring is having your water feature completely cleaned in the fall. We will pump out your water, saving as much water as possible while holding your fish in our large tanks with their water; then remove as much debris as possible, pressure wash filters, pond, and stream. Blow out the auto fill line if needed. Install your aerator, recirculation pipe, heater or what ever system you are comfortable with using to keep your pond and fish healthy for the winter. Send or fax the form on the back page or call to schedule the service to be done as soon as possible. You can see the process of cleaning by accessing our web site at [www.nwgpounds.com](http://www.nwgpounds.com)

## Our Company Icon

Over the past years I have had to do several articles like this one. Just like the others these are difficult to write. I have lost friends, employees associated with our company and several clients we have created features for that have become loyal friends.

This past August 2<sup>nd</sup> Bud (our 8 year old silky terrier) as many of you know him because he was on most jobs, service calls, and proposals we have done, he became part of this company. Passed away about a month ago of congestive heart failure.



But we all knew he had a large heart and unconditional love.

We have his picture on our private label products that you use in your water features. He spent so much time with us that he was associated with the proper care, and eco-friendly way of pond treatment; he is the face of Natural Water Gardens.



Bud loved to be in the sludge when the ponds were being clean, the dirtier the better. We all thought he was under the impression that every feature was built just for him. By the end of each build when we were filling the ponds with water he was always in the ponds swimming in them. As Carol in Elkhorn WI, said, "the pond was not properly christen until Bud jumped in the pond at the end of a build". Thanks Carol.

Bud was a constant companion at my side from morning till night. With his passing it was difficult going to work

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in the mornings. We had a ritual of breakfast, reading the paper, making lunch (he always got little bites), putting on our boots, coat, and off to work. After two weeks I told Wanda that I thought we should get another dog. We added a new pup shortly after that; it's another silky terrier, that's what we thought Bud was. We found him almost to Waterloo Iowa; he was eight weeks old when we got him. His name is Shinyu (means best friend in Japanese). I gave him two days off before he went to work. So now he is in training and you should be meeting him. Thanks for the cards and thoughts from everyone that has contacted me.



Bud & I kayaking in fl. last winter, I went kayaking for the first time a month ago without him.

**Bud, you will be Missed, Loved, but always Remembered, Tim, Wanda and Your Natural Water Gardens Family**  
**Buds Corner Special!!!**

**Micro  
Pond Kits  
\$799.99**

**Reg. \$949.99**

**Up to 8'x11'pond, everything you need except the hole & stone**

*Great Christmas presents*

*While supplies last*

*Froggy Bucks Qualify*

*Get ready for next spring*

### **Fall Prep**

Trim back water lilies and dying plant material, lower plants that are in containers into deeper water and remove any tropical plants. It is important to keep leaves and other organic debris from decomposing in the pond. Fish are already trying to cope with water temp changes. Deadly chemicals, such as, hydrogen sulfide or carbon dioxide, are released by decaying plant material. Decaying matter can also harbor parasites and sometimes promote certain harmful bacteria. All of this can be lethal for your fish during the winter. Be sure to skim leaves off the water surface, vacuum debris, and net your pond. Every year we have clients that lose all of their fish do decomposing leaves and debris in their ponds, please don't be one of them!! For those of you who will be closing down your pond yourself, we have a Pond Vacuum available for you to rent. Rental fee is \$50/day. Be sure to add a pond de-icer and/or bubbler, recirculation or some way the gasses can escape and will not become toxic for your fish. Remove your pump and place it in a bucket of water so the seals will not dry out and crack. Store it in a frost-free location. (If not recirculating) The auto fill line from your faucet to the skimmer box will need to be blown out to remove all the water so it does not freeze and break. If you have the black box type auto fill, it must be removed. You can do this with an air compressor. Before doing this remove the float, which will allow the air to go through the line and remove the water. Tape your float to the pump.



### **Natural Water Gardens**

Cold-Temp Hydro-Topia \$31.99ea.

Designed for increased bacteria activity at lower temps Supports clear water, healthy fish, and pristine water quality

Naturally reduces sludge, uneaten fish food, fish waste, and other excess nutrients that cause poor water quality. Safe for fish and plants

**Microbe-Lift** Autumn/Winter-\$31.99

Specially formulated for pond winterization, natural, safe and beneficial bacteria-not a chemical-harmless to humans, animals, fish and plants

- Continues to provide biological activity in temps even under 55°
- Helps jump-start pond to a healthier environment for spring
- Helps maintain a healthy immune system for your fish during winter months
- Reduces build-up of dead leaves and organic sediment all winter long

### **Fish Feeding & Salt**

If your pond is at least 20" deep, the fish may remain in the pond all winter with the assistance of a pond heater. The fish become dormant and will feed off the algae at the bottom of the pond all winter. If you feed them use Low-Temp fish food once the water temperature reaches below 55°. Be sure to look your fish over for any signs of parasites and act quickly if finding something, so your fish have enough time to recuperate before winter sets in. We recommend that your salt content is at 2% during the winter months.



### **Thermometers-\$12.99**

Use only **non iodized salt**. Never use water softener salts, all softener salts have detergents in them that could harm your fish and water quality. Salt should be applied at a rate of 1lb. per 100 gallons to obtain 1% concentration level.

Salt does not disturb the beneficial bacteria in your ponds ecosystem at these rates. Salt does not evaporate so when you are adding salt to a pond always check it after your fist application. You can bring a small amount of water to the retail center so we can test it for you, or we have salt test kits at our retail center.

### **Be prepared for winter**



**Pond with re-circulating pipe from pump in skimmer box and Alita aerator with one air stone and 300 watt heater**



NATURAL WATER GARDENS  
 1866 BROWNS MILL RD & RT 20  
 FREEPORT, IL. 61032  
 815/235-7663  
 FAX 815/235-7662



**Fall Frogger**

LOCATED 5 MILES EAST OF FREEPORT, IL. NORTH CORNER OF BROWNS MILL RD & RT 20  
 WATERSCAPE DESIGN/INSTALLATION/MAINTENANCE/RETAIL CENTER  
[WWW.NWGPONDS.COM](http://WWW.NWGPONDS.COM)

**SIGN-UP SHEET FOR FALL POND CLOSING 2010**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate week to be netted \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Approximate Week to be closed \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

PULL PUMP & BLOW-OUT AUTO-FILL LINE: YES / NO TRIM BACK LILIES AND OTHER AQUATIC PLANTS: YES / NO

NEED HEATER: YES / NO BRAND: \_\_\_\_\_ NEED MICROBE-LIFT PREP: YES / NO

NEED NET: YES / NO SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEED RECIRCULATING PIPE YES/NO

NEED VAERATOR: YES / NO BRAND \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLETE FALL CLEANING: YES / NO** Approximate week to completely cleaned \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

<u>HEATERS:</u>	<u>AERATORS:</u>	<u>Nylon pond Nets:</u>	<u>Plastic pond nets</u>
300watt Pond de-icer \$59.99	NP aerator \$89.99	3/4" mesh 12'X15' \$25.99	1/2" mesh 10'x15' \$39.99 1/2" mesh 14'x14' \$19.99
1250watt pond heater \$59.99	NWG aerator kit (best) \$199.99	3/4" mesh 15'X20' \$36.99	1/2" mesh 20'x20' \$49.99 1/2" mesh 14'x28' \$36.99
Ice-guard \$119.99		3/4" mesh 20'X30' \$68.99	1/2" mesh 20'x30' \$68.99 <u>Fall bacteria's</u>
Pond Breather \$99.99			NWG spring/fall \$31.99 Microbe-lift spring/fall \$31.99

COMPLETE FALL CLEANING STARTS AT \$285 \*WINTERIZING STARTS AT \$65, THIS INCLUDES: PULLING PUMP, BLOWING AUTO-FILL LINE, INSTALLING HEATER \*ADDITIONAL SERVICES \$49/HR

**SEPERATE CHARGES FOR NETTING & CLOSING FEATURES IF NOT DONE AT SAME TIME**

**All close-ups must be booked by Oct 15, 2010 & Nettings Booked by Oct 7 2010**

**OTHER PRODUCTS AVAILABLE-WE ALSO SHIP!!!**

MAIL TO: NATURAL WATER GARDENS OR FAX: 815/235-7662