



# Splash

Volume 32, Number 06, June 2016

**Next meeting is Tuesday June 21 at 7:30 PM  
LOCATION CHANGE: Vineland Branch Library,  
1450 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA 95118.**

**POND TOUR PREVIEW— SIX BEAUTIFUL PONDS ON DISPLAY!**



We are now finalizing details for our upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Pond Tour Saturday, July 16, 2016 between 9 AM and 4 PM. Please save the date and consider volunteering for our biggest event of the year. It takes many volunteers and it is a great way to meet fellow members, pond hobbyists, and Koi keepers while supporting your club. We will officially put out the list of six ponds June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Come to the meeting to find out about these gems.

We are asking all members and friends of the club to help us get the word out about this event. Post to Facebook, Nextdoor, social media, and any other place you can think of that would

attract attendees to our event. Our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Pond tour is shaping up to be really nice.

The pond locations are in Willow Glen and Sunnyvale. Pick up some posters and promotional materials at the meeting and share with family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. We will have a special BBQ for all volunteers a week or so after the event. Also, all volunteers get free admission to the pond tour.

*If you have questions about the pond tour email [scvkwg@sckoi.com](mailto:scvkwg@sckoi.com)*

***Visit us on the web at: [www.sckoi.com](http://www.sckoi.com)***

## **Club Meetings:**

The club meets on the third Tuesday of each month except July (Third Friday) and December (No Meeting) in the Willow Glen Public Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125. At meetings we get acquainted with members and guests, address any pond issues that people may have then enjoy a pond or water gardening related presentation. Afterwards we enjoy refreshments and open discussion.

## Upcoming Events

- Jun 21 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Meeting Room, at the Vineland Branch Library, 1450 Blossom Hill Road, San José, CA 95118.
- Jul 5 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Frank Mullany's home. All members are welcome.
- Jul 15 Pond Tour, Kick Off Meeting – Friday July 15th, 7:15 to 7:45 PM. Meeting Room, at the Vineland Branch Library, 1450 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA 95118. This will be a quick for volunteer assignments and preparation for the pond tour the next day.
- Jul 16 25th Annual Pond Tour, Saturday, July 16, 2016, 9 AM to 4 PM. Volunteers needed!
- Jul 23 Pond Tour Volunteer BBQ Event / Time and Location TBA
- Jul 28-31 2016 Santa Clara County Fair -- The club will have an educational display about Koi and promote our club. Volunteers needed.
- Aug 2 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Frank Mullany's home. All members are welcome. (Board meets on the first Tuesday of the month)
- Aug 23 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room. Speaker: TBA Topic: TBA
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## Water Plant of the Month – White Water Lily [*Nymphaea odorata*]



The white water lily is a perennial plant that often form dense colonies. The leaves arise on flexible stalks from large thick rhizomes. The leaves are more round than heart-shaped, bright green, 6 to 12 inches in diameter with the slit about 1/3 the length of the leaf. Leaves usually float on the water's surface. Flowers arise on separate stalks, have brilliant white petals (25 or more per flower) with yellow centers. The flowers may float or stick above the water and each opens in the morning and closes in the afternoon. The flowers are very fragrant. White water lily can spread from seeds or the

rhizomes. Submerged portions of all aquatic plants provide habitats for many micro and macro invertebrates. These invertebrates in turn are used as food by fish and other wildlife species (e.g. amphibians, reptiles, ducks, etc). After aquatic plants die, their decomposition by bacteria and fungi provides food (called "detritus") for many aquatic invertebrates.

Source: <http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/plant-identification/alphabetical-index/white-water-lily/>

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## Which Pipe Fittings Should I use? Does It Make a Difference?

By POND Content Network, Sept. 12, 2009; [by way of the San Diego Koi Club and Jerry Kyle]

We always hear about the efficiencies of some pipe fittings over others, and most often see them in writings or in some graph. Writings and graphs are great, but we wanted to find out exactly what the graphs would look like in a real-world situation.



Understanding it All: The name of the game is "low friction loss." When you select a low-head, high-efficiency koi pond pump from one of the koi dealers, you will probably get a state-of-the-art, quiet, very low amp draw pump that will last for many years. In order to get the most out of that low-head pump, you will need to have a low-head plumbing system.

Let's face it, with today's energy costs, we need to be concerned with conserving energy, and you can get that little bit extra just by selecting the right pipe fittings. By selecting the correct elbows when you build your piping system, you can use a smaller pump than you otherwise would, thereby saving energy. Even if you can't find a smaller pump with lower energy consumption, you will still benefit by getting more water flow from the same pump. And who doesn't want more water flowing over their waterfall?

Get This Through Your Head: The term "head" as it pertains to pumps has two parts to it. The one that most people know is the "actual head," or "vertical head." This is a measure in inches, feet or meters that specifies how high the water is being lifted above the pond's water level. In the case of a koi pond, "vertical head" is most likely going to be the distance from the surface of the pond water to the top of a waterfall. The gauge for the bead filter at six psi. At a higher pressure, the pump is moving less water, so it is doing less work. It is also the weight of the water that causes so much head loss when it is forced to change directions.

Another part of the term "head" is commonly called "dynamic head." Dynamic head is a total of all the things that resist water flow in the piping system. It includes the friction loss from the pipes themselves, the loss due to the water changing direction, and the restriction of filter devices, ball valves and any other components in the plumbing system. "Total head" is the sum of both "actual head" and "dynamic head." You must use your "total head" as a guide when selecting a pump. Water is heavy. That is why most pumps use more energy when pumping at low pressure than they do when pumping at high pressure. The weight of the water being moved is more of a burden on the motor than the pressure, or "head," it is being lifted to.

To illustrate this, just picture yourself carrying a heavy rock, moving in one direction, and then trying to change direction 90° in a short distance. You will almost have to stop, which takes energy, and then restart in the other direction, taking more energy. If you could make the turn over a longer distance, it would not take as much energy.

Where, What And How: The test took place at the Aquatic Eco-Systems facility in Apopka, FL. In the test, we compared 90° PVC elbows to two 45° elbows and 90° sweeps. Trying to keep the test as realistic as possible short of building an actual pond, a 500US/416UK gallon show tank was used as our pond.

The Short, Common, 90° Elbows: For the plumbing, 3ft/91.4cm of 1.5in/40mm PVC pipe with two 90° elbows that lead from a 1/4hp SHE 2.4 pump to a bead filter running at 6psi was used. For the rest of the test 46ft/14m of 2in/50mm PVC pipe was used with eight 90° directional changes, as well as a 4ft/1.2m vertical rise to simulate a waterfall.

Bob did not want to rely strictly on a flow meter, so the flow was also measured by catching the pumped water in a 45US/37UK gallon tank over a timed period. Each test was run six times and then averaged to get the final numbers in gallons per minute. Just a quick note here; do not get caught up in what equipment was used for the test. The equipment used is just a means to an end.

### **The Results:**

The Short, Common, 90° Elbows	38.5US/32UK gallons/min, which is
35.5US/29.5UK gallons/min, which is	2310US/1923UK gallons/hr.
2130US/ 1773UK gallons/hr.	The 90° Long Sweep
Two 45° Elbows next to each other	39.8US/33UK gallons/min, which is
Two 45° Elbows next to each other	2388US/1988UK gallons/hr.

Just Some Thoughts: When you realize that you can get as much as 12% improvement in your pump's output simply by using different elbows, you'd have to be crazy not to do it. The difference between the common 90 and the sweep 90 is 4.3US gallons/min, which works out to 258US/215UK gallons/hr. As Bob mentioned, it doesn't look like much, but let's go just a bit further with it. 258US gallons/hr is 6192US/5155UK gallons in a 24-hour period.

The 90° Long Sweep: If you have a pond that size, you will get one more pass through your filter each day. If your pond is half that size, you'll get two more passes through your filters per day. I think you can agree that is a pretty good trade off for just changing some elbows. Keep in mind we only used a few turns; in an actual pond you could have quite a few more than that hindering your flow even more. Plumb your system more efficiently and buy the smaller pump and get the same targeted flow rate

*Speaking of Jerry... Jerry Kyle, an AKCA Koi Health Advisor from the San Diego club added his comments:* Lesson learned was use 2 each 45\* angles or better yet, something called a "sweep" for a turn. I wish I remembered who to give credit to for teaching me that if I put the PVC pipe on the barbeque for 15 seconds, rotate 1/4 turn, count 15 seconds, rotate again, another 15 seconds, the pipe can get soft enough to hand bend in a wide sweep even more efficient and saves the cost of those expensive fittings. Got a blow torch? Even easier. No curved fittings need be purchased and you can make any angle so not limited to straight lines and multiple fittings. Want another hint about water flow? Replace that 2 inch drain pipe from the skimmer with a 3 inch pipe. You will be amazed at how much more the surface water flows to the skimmer taking the leaves with it.

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## **Koi of the Year – Santa Clara Koi and Water Garden Club**

We had three nice entries into the Koi of the Year contest for our club that will represent us in an upcoming KOI USA magazine article along with winners from other AKCA affiliated clubs. Thank you to all members who voted. We will announce the winner at the general meeting.

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## Membership Drive – 2016/17 – Renew or Join Today

Our annual membership drive has begun. Club dues are \$30.00 per year (from July 1 to June 30). If you join after our annual membership drive your dues will be prorated at the rate of \$2.50 per month until the next membership term starts. To join, send your name, address, phone number and email address along with your check for dues to SCVKWG, PO Box 9006, San Jose, CA 95157 or bring your dues to the next meeting. Thank you for your support.

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## Monthly Club Report to Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA)

The club will hold its 25th Annual Pond Tour on Saturday, July 16, 2016 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Visit six beautiful ponds in the Santa Clara Valley. All are welcome. The club plans to host a booth at the upcoming Santa Clara County Fair July 30-Aug1, 2016. The club plans to have an educational display about Koi keeping and water gardening. Our club voted on our Koi of the Year for the AKCA Contest.

*NOTE: The above report will be added to AKCA board Minutes and will be posted on AKCA website for all to see under our name as Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden Club. Check <http://www.akca.org> and click on Koi Clubs.*

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## Board Meeting Review – June 2016

The May board meeting was held Tuesday, 06/07/16. Cal, Frank, Mel Eve, Maus, Cece, Diane, Kay, Rita were in attendance. We reviewed club business and worked on preparations the upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Pond Tour July 16, 2016. The club plans to host a booth at the upcoming Santa Clara County Fair July 30-Aug1, 2016. The club plans to have an educational display. Volunteers needed for both events.

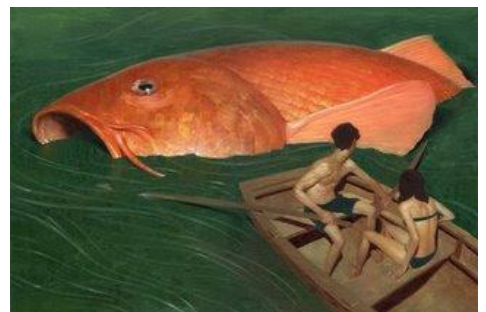
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## Koi Trivia

Because koi fish can develop such an array of colors, it comes as no surprise that each hue has developed a connotation. Gold koi fish represent wealth and prosperity. Metallic koi symbolize success in business. A blue koi is thought to bring serenity. Asagi koi of blue, red, and grey colorings symbolize positivity. Black koi are thought to hold a patriarchal symbolism, with red belonging to the mother, blue to the son, and pink to the daughter.


Koi fish are very intellectual. Like a dog or a cat, they can be trained to eat out of your hand and sometimes even out of your mouth. Koi fish are omnivores and are known to munch on pond plants.

Koi fish can grow up to three feet long if raised in the ideal conditions. They can become sunburned if a pond is too shallow and has little shade. Koi fish don't have teeth. Females are larger than males.



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