



June 05, 2007

tideline aquatics Newsletter

Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

Monday – Friday 11am-7pm
Saturday 10am-6pm
Sundays 1pm-5pm

THE HEAT IS ON! KEEPING YOUR ANIMALS SAFE DURING THE SUMMER

Saltwater Fish: In the marine fish aquarium, if the water temperature begins to climb above 80 degrees, your fish's metabolism begins to race. This can lead to your fish requiring more food to maintain the proper weight. Warmer water also reduces the amount of oxygen the water can hold. With the fish requiring more food and the water holding less oxygen, this can put quite a strain on the biological filter. If purchasing a chiller is out of the question (quite expensive), there are other options that can reduce the water temperature by a few degrees. Instead of running your aquarium lights during the day, consider having the lights switch on in the early evening. If your aquarium uses a wet/dry filter or canister filter, open up the cabinet doors and place a small fan where it will blow the cooler air from the room into the cabinet stand. If you do not have any fish that tend to jump out, you can also leave your glass tops or aquarium lid open. This will allow better air circulation across the surface of the tank allowing the water temperature to remain cooler. The addition of a simple air pump with a small airstone will prevent the water from becoming oxygen depleted. An airstone in saltwater will make salt creep more of an issue but the extra oxygen is worth the extra cleaning of the salt creep. It is best to avoid floating bags of ice or frozen water containers in the aquarium except for emergency purposes. Sudden drops in

the water temperature and/or upward and downward swings over several hours can cause your fish to develop a parasite outbreak.

Reef Aquarium: The reef aquarium is probably one of the most difficult aquariums to keep cool in the summer months, especially once the humidity begins to climb. Live corals tend to suffer the most with symptoms like tissue recession, bleaching of the zooxanthellae and eventually death of the coral. Problem algae such as slime algae (cyanobacteria), hair algae and diatom algae also tend to thrive in the warmer water. If your water temperature is climbing above 82 degrees, a chiller may be the only option for keeping your water temperature at a safe level. First try switching your lighting cycle to run at night instead of during the day. Raising your light fixture 2" above the aquarium and placing a small fan to blow cooler air across the surface of the tank can lower the water temperature by 1 or 2 degrees. If your reef light fixture has a protective shield, you can try removing your glass tops from the tank. Remember that certain fish species tend to jump out more than others so consider this possibility if you are going to remove the tops. Increase water surface agitation by turning your return spouts up at the surface or by adding a small airstone driven by a simple air pump. Open up your cabinet stand doors to allow cool air to enter the stand. You can also lower the air temperature in your house by turning down the thermostat. Never crank up the thermostat during the day while you are at work. As the house temperature warms up, your aquarium will quickly become warmer as well. A chiller may be an expensive purchase, but considering the investment you have in a reef aquarium, it may be your best option.

Garden Pond: Now you may think it is impossible to lower your pond's water temperature but this is simply not true. Typically garden ponds are placed in full sun for the benefit of the plants. Water lilies are one of the best natural means of cooling down your garden pond. Water lilies love the sun and will spread their leaves out over a 3' to 5' area. These leaves will reduce the amount of light reaching the surface of the water creating natural shade. This along with the cooler ground temperature will help to keep the pond from reaching dangerous temperatures (above 86 degrees). If you have large koi and cannot utilize plants, try placing white Styrofoam floating sheets on the surface of the pond. The white Styrofoam will reflect the light upward and create shade so the ground temperature can keep the pond cooler. If you have a skimmer on your pond, you can anchor the Styrofoam lids using monofilament line attached to the lids and anchored to rocks or stakes mounted outside the pond. This will prevent the sheets of Styrofoam from floating into the opening of the skimmer and blocking the opening. Shade cloth can also be purchased and hung from stakes around the pond. Remember that warmer water holds less oxygen! If you are using algacides, these products WILL temporarily cause oxygen levels to plummet when first added to the pond water. If the ponds oxygen levels are already marginal, the addition of the algacide can cause oxygen levels to reach low levels that will kill your fish! We strongly suggest that you add an airstone or two driven by a simple air pump to prevent oxygen levels from reaching critical lows. Remember also that low oxygen levels can cause the accumulation of carbon dioxide that can cause a sudden drop in the waters pH. Ensure that the carbonate hardness in your pond water remains above 3 degrees to reduce the risk of a sudden pH drop that can kill your beautiful goldfish and koi.

Freshwater Aquariums: Luckily, freshwater tropical fish are quite tolerant of elevated temperatures as long as oxygen levels remain at safe levels and the water temperature is not dropping down 2 or three degrees overnight. Remember that drops in water temperature of more than 2 or 3 degrees can cause your fish to a parasite outbreak like ich. Most freshwater fish will thrive in water temperatures even as high as

84 degrees! In this warmer water, your biggest concern would be the waters oxygen level. Aquariums that are not crowded with fish may be fine but heavily stocked tanks and/or tanks with larger fish may require the addition of an airstone driven by a simple air pump. The airstone will prevent the oxygen from dropping to a dangerous level. Ensure that the surface of the water is being heavily agitated by the water return of your power filter, canister filter and/or wet/dry filter. Be sure to also monitor the waters carbonate hardness (KH) level. A KH of 2-3 degrees will prevent a sudden drop in pH that can kill your aquarium inhabitants AND your biological filter.

POND TOUR 2007 IS HERE!! **READ ALL ABOUT IT!!**



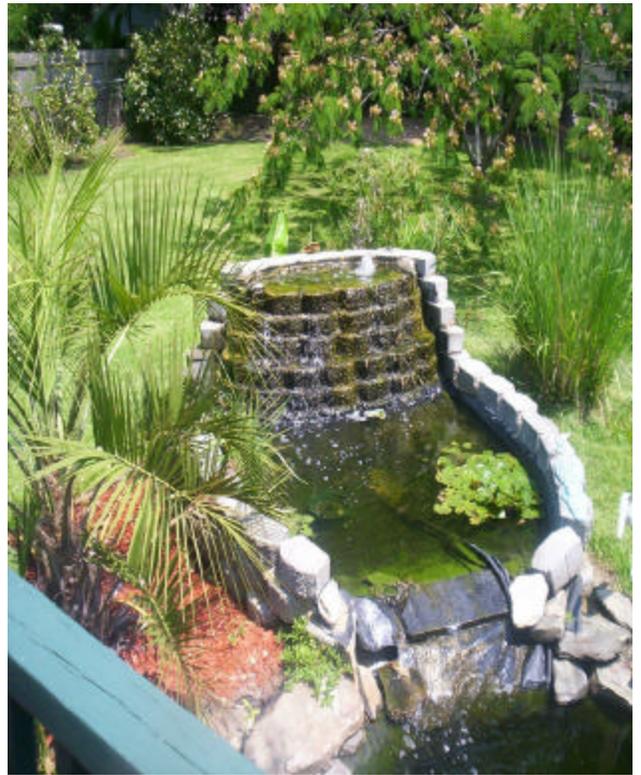
You do not have to own a garden pond to enjoy the 2007 Charleston Showa Koi Club Pond Tour. This is a day you can get together with your family and friends to take this self-guided tour to landscapes all over the Charleston area. It is nearly impossible to see all of the ponds on the tour so just go through the tour book and plan a route that suites your schedule. Every garden is unique! There are ponds dedicated only to koi while others include water plants surrounded by lush planted landscapes. There is no better way to get ideas for your own garden or pond than to take this tour. Rare plants, valuable Japanese koi, beautiful fountains and creative sculptures are just a few of the highlights of this once-a-year Charleston event.



The cost of the ticket is only \$10.00 per adult for this self-guided tour. Children under the age of 12 can attend the tour free of charge when accompanied by an adult. At the end of the day, everyone will meet on Johns Island for the grand finale with free food, prizes and raffles.



Portions of the proceeds go to the John Ancrum SPCA – a wonderful organization for animals. Tickets can be purchased at Tideline Aquatics, Hyam's Garden Center, West Ashley Pet Care Center and many other locations in the Charleston area. Just call Robert Lewis at 830-7677 for the nearest location to you.



Once again, do not miss this once-a-year event in the Charleston area. I (Chris) will not be at the store this Saturday as I will be at home greeting folks visiting my own garden pond included on the tour. If you attend the Pond Tour, please stop by and visit! Remember the tour is this Saturday, June 9th from 9am until 4pm.



THESE KOI ARE ACTUALLY NEARLY 3 FOOT LONG LIVING IN A MONSTROUS 25,000 GALLON POND IN DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON!!

YOUR AQUARIUM LIGHTS MAY STILL LIGHT – BUT HOW OLD ARE THEY AND WHAT CAN OLD LAMPS CAUSE?

Aquarium light bulbs, whether fluorescent, power compact or metal halide, will continue to light for years. What you may not know is that the spectrum of light they provide your aquarium degrades over time. Fluorescent lamps and power compact lamps should be replaced at least every 10-12 months depending on the number of hours they are lit each day. Metal halide lamps should be replaced at least every 1.5 years. Why?

Lamps that have shifted spectrums can cause extra maintenance to you! If you have a reef aquarium, live plant aquarium or even just a fish-only aquarium, old lamps will cause all types of algae problems. Hair algae, slime algae and ugly brown diatom algae all thrive under the poor lighting conditions that old aquarium lamps provide. Dramatic changes in the rate of growth of live corals, coralline algae and live plants can all be fixed by keeping your aquarium lights replaced when required. You will also be amazed at the difference you will see in the looks of your aquarium fish with good aquarium lights. Check to see when your aquarium lamps were last replaced. It will not only cut down on the maintenance, it will give your tank a fresh look that will be greatly appreciated by its inhabitants.

NEW PRODUCTS AT TIDELINE AQUATICS!

Flatworm Exit: You have been asking for this product! If only you hadn't purchased that item from somewhere else you would not have flatworms! Now that you do, here is a product to eradicate those nasty critters from your reef aquarium. You may want to consider dipping new additions to your reef tank before they go into the aquarium. Flatworm Exit is an excellent product BUT

YOU must read the instructions and follow them exactly to avoid losses to your reef aquarium.

Microbe Lift Algae Away: This pond product will kill most types of algae that grow in garden ponds. When using this product (and all algaecides for that matter), you must ensure that the oxygen levels in your pond are high (strong aeration, waterfall, etc) and that the carbonate hardness is at least 3 degrees to prevent a sudden drop in the pH. Microbe Lift Algae Away is more concentrated than the competitive product Algae Fix making it a better buy for your money.

DT's Live Plankton: This is one of the best reef foods available. These live plankton cultures are accepted by live corals and all other filter feeding organisms in your reef aquarium. Because these cultures are live, you will have much less risk in overfeeding your reef tank and causing blooms of problem algae. Remember to refrigerate this product and use it before the expiration date labeled on the bottle!

LOCAL CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS/FORUMS

Want to ask a question about your freshwater, saltwater, reef or garden pond? Visit us at: www.tidelineaquatics.net/discuss/categories.asp

Have a reef aquarium? Check out our local reef club at: www.charlestonreefers.org

Love water gardens and koi? Visit the Charleston Showa Koi Club website at: www.charlestonshowakoiclub.org

Saltwater fish aquarium club – CMAC
www.columbiamac.org

Question and Answer Forum –
www.wetwebmedia.com

Fish of the Week



HARLEQUIN TUSKFISH (CHOERODON FASCIATUS)

Would you like to add an expensive fish to your aquarium at a fraction of the regular price? Well this week we are offering these young Harlequin Tuskfish at a price you cannot beat. We have had these little guys for several weeks and they are eating nearly any type of food added to the tank. These juvenile Tuskfish are not nearly as vivid as the picture above as they are still in their changing juvenile to adult color pattern. Harlequin Tuskfish look as though they would be an aggressive species with their bright blue fangs hanging out of their lips. Do not let this fool you though as these fish seldom ever show aggression to their tankmates unless it is a shrimp! Harlequin Tuskfish enjoy meaty foods of krill, squid, shrimp, formula one, ghost shrimp, small fiddler crabs and even pelleted foods. Just provide this fish will good water quality and room to grow. Though a slow grower, this fish can reach 10" in the aquarium and even larger size in the wild. This is just one of the great specials available this week at Tideline Aquatics. Print off the coupon at: www.tidelineaquatics.net

What's New At Tideline

FEEDERS (EXPECTED WEDNESDAY):

Live Black Worms, Ghost Shrimp, Crayfish, Rosy Reds, Guppies, Feeder Goldfish, Fiddler Crabs.

FRESHWATER FISH (EXPECTED WEDNESDAY):

Rare Corydoras Robinae Catfish (the flag-tail cory catfish), Zebra Danios, Red Chromides (have not seen these in some time!), Assorted Plecostomus algae eaters, Assorted Mystery Snails, Bala Sharks, White Cheek Freshwater Gobies, Large Cardinal Tetras, Local Bred Blue German Rams.

Also in stock: Large Florida Bred Neon Tetras, Jumbo Florida Bred Cardinal Tetras (limited), Stiphodon Red Gobies (NEW AND COOL), Imperial Tetras (NEW, EXPENSIVE AND BEAUTIFUL), Green Montezuma Swordtails, Red Velvet Wag Swordtails, 24K Tuxedo Platies, Sunburst Wag Platies, Silver Lyretail Mollies, Male Show Bettas, Male Powder Blue Dwarf Gouramis, Small Pink Kissers, Tiger Barbs, Geophagus Jurupari Earth-eaters (Big Ones), Managuense Jaguar Cichlids, Salvini Cichlids, Green Terror Cichlids (Excellent color on these), Texas Cichlids, Albino Oscars, Tiger Oscars, Premium Mix African Cichlids, Rubber Plecostomus, Albino Cory Catfish, Clown Loaches, Golden Dojo Weather Loaches, Iridescent Sharks, Redtail Barracudas, Figure Eight Pufferfish, Spotted Green Pufferfish, South American Freshwater Stingrays, Mixed Fancy Chinese Goldfish, Medium Mixed Fancy Chinese Goldfish, Red Serpae Tetras, NEW Mahecola Barbs plus all the other goodies loaded up in all our tanks at this time.

GOLDFISH, KOI AND POND PLANTS (LOADED WITH STOCK):

Small Domestic Pond Koi, Medium Domestic Pond Koi, Large Domestic Pond Koi, Jumbo Domestic Pond Koi, Medium Standard Butterfly Koi, Medium Premium Butterfly Koi, Large Standard Butterfly Koi, Beautiful Blooming Water Lilies in 1 Gallon Pots (tropical and hardy cultivars), Bog Plants, Pond Lotus (assorted sizes and colors), Floating Island Plants, Parrots Feather Bunches, Hornwort Bunches and more!!

SALTWATER FISH (NOW IN STOCK):

Clown Triggerfish (Indian Ocean), Niger Triggerfish (Indian Ocean), Gold Bar Maroon Clownfish (Sumatra), Twinspot Wrasse (Africa), Adult Formosa Wrasses (Africa), Asfer Angelfish (Red Sea), Sohal Tang (Red Sea), Starry Dogface Pufferfish (Africa), Male Square Back Pink Anthias (Eastern Asia), Midas Blennies (Eastern Asia), Bundoon Blennies (Eastern Asia), Green Canary Blennies (Central Pacific), Tomato Clownfish (Indian Ocean), True Percula Clownfish (Solomon Islands), Blue Devil Damsel fish, Yellow-tail Blue Damsel fish, Domino Damsel fish, Four-Stripe Damsel fish, Snowflake Moray Eels (Indian Ocean), Orange Striped Randall Goby (Eastern Asia), Yellow Watchman Goby (Indian Ocean), Lemon Citron Goby (Fiji), Firefish Goby (Indian Ocean), Bondable Nocturnus Nano Goby (Cebu), Yellow Priolepsis Nano Goby (Cebu), Assorted Trimma Goby (Cebu), Diamond Sifter Goby (Sri Lanka), Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish (Indian Ocean), Clown Tangs (Sri Lanka), Powder Blue Tangs (Sri Lanka), Tomini Tangs (Fiji), Blue Regal Tangs (Indian Ocean), Sailfin Tangs (Indian Ocean), Yellow Tangs (Hawaii), Bursa Triggerfish (Indian Ocean) and more of the quality marine fish you expect from Tideline Aquatics. .

SALTWATER INVERTEBRATES (NOW IN STOCK):

Cleaner Shrimp, Peppermint Shrimp, Jumbo Platygyra Worm Brain, Lime Green Jumbo Sinularia Leather Coral, Green Frogspawn Corals, Green Hammer Coral, Jumbo Derasa Clam (and we mean JUMBO), Super Yellow and Orange Zoanthid Polyp Rock, Toadstool Leather Corals, Green Rasta Leather Coral, Blue Crocea Clams, Favia Brain Corals, Favites Brain Corals, Pink Feather Dusters, Assorted Indonesian Mushroom Rocks, Assorted Reef Snails, Coral Banded Shrimp, Assorted Zoanthid Rocks, Fancy Color Bubble Anemones, Malu Sebae Anemones, Small Fiji Acropora Colonies, Cynarina Meat Corals, Monitpora Danae Corals, Pink Trachyphia Corals, Red Tip Reef Hermits, Dwarf Yellow Feather Dusters, Super Red Mushroom Polyps, Margarita Reef Snails, Sexy Shrimp, Incredible Macro-Algae Live Rock, Fiji Live Rock (much of this live rock already has polyps growing on it). You just need to come in and check out our live coral selection at this time. It is definitely the best in town!