

tideline aquatics Newsletter

Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

Monday – Friday 11am-7pm Saturday 10am-6pm

 $Sundays \qquad \qquad 1pm\text{-}5pm \text{ (closed this sunday)}$



The Tideline Aquatics Staff would like to wish every Mom out there the best Mothers Day ever! To enable our staff to spend the day with their Moms, we will be closed on Sunday, May 11th. This Saturday, all the ladies will receive a 10% off discount on any livestock purchases made that day. This is our way of thanking all of you Moms out there for being such special people!

KEEPING YOUR FISH HEALTHY



Your aquarium inhabitants are completely relying on you to keep them healthy. Everything you do (and don't do) to your aquarium directly affects the quality of life you provide to your fish. For your fish to live out their regular lifespan there are basic needs that they require. Are

you providing everything your fish need to thrive?

Water Quality – To ensure the environment you provide to your fish is safe, the water should be tested at least once per month though we would prefer you test the water once per week. Try to maintain water parameters suitable to the species you are housing in your aquarium. For instance, African Cichlids prefer hard, alkaline water. When kept is soft acidic water, their life span is reduced, their colors often fade and their immune system becomes compromised often leading to disease issues that healthy cichlids would not succumb to. This is even more important when keeping marine fish. While many freshwater fish can acclimate to a variety of water conditions, marine fish cannot. The reef contains water quality that changes very little from day to day and season to season. Marine fish do not acclimate well to conditions less than perfect. The water quality is directly related to your aquarium husbandry and the aquarium filtration system. Even if you purchase the most expensive filtration system available, there are still regular procedures you must perform to keep if functioning properly. By performing at least one 25% partial water change on your aquarium each month, you will reduce the accumulated organics trapped in the water column and in the substrate. Filter media (pads, activated carbon, etc) is only good for a specific period of time depending on the brand, your fish load and the media your filter uses. Moving parts within the filter also need servicing regularly for the filter to perform at its best. Biological media (bio-wheels, bio-balls, shaved PVC, ceramic rings, etc) should be serviced but never cleaned with tap water as tap water contains Chloramines that destroy these beneficial bacteria.

Stocking the Aquarium - The old-fashioned rule of thumb for stocking an aquarium with 1" of fish per gallon of water is somewhat of a

wives tale. Though a 10 gallon aquarium may be able to hold 8-10 one inch fish, it certainly would not be large enough to hold one 8"-10" fish!



The size of the fish, the type of filtration your aguarium uses, the type of fish (are they territorial species?) and your aquarium husbandry are all relevant considerations when stocking your aquarium. Remember too that new aquariums should have only a very small number of fish for the first 3-6 weeks of operation. This gives the biological media in your filter time to be colonized by nitrifying bacteria. Once your aguarium becomes fully established, only then should you begin stocking your aquarium with additional species. So there is really not straight forward answer when it comes to the number of fish your aquarium can hold. If your water quality remains stable, then you likely have not overstocked your aquarium. Remember that an overstocked aquarium with poor water quality will soon become a breeding ground for disease organisms that will harm your fish.

Diet – Just like human beings, fish require a complete balanced diet to remain healthy for the long term. So often we have people speaking about how they only feed their fish brine shrimp, or only krill or only bloodworms. In order for the dietary needs of your fish to be met, a variety of food choices should be offered or at least a complete balanced diet choice. Bloodworms, mysis shrimp, brine shrimp, etc are all excellent TREAT foods but they will never sustain a fish long term if fed solely. Manufacturers produce complete flake foods, pelletized foods and frozen foods to be used on a daily basis. These foods have additional vitamins, algae, minerals and protein levels that are required by our freshwater and marine fish. These complete diets should be

the main choice you offer your fish with treat







food items like bloodworms, brine shrimp, mysis shrimp and the like added as treat-type foods. These treat foods will boost growth, color and often breeding of your fish but only do so when your fish are also offered a balanced main diet as mentioned earlier.

FEEDING HABITS – No filtration system can handle sustained over-feeding. You would be surprised at how healthy your fish will remain even when fed smaller amounts than most aguarists feed. The rule of thumb is to feed your fish, not your aquarium. You can easily find if you are over-feeding by testing your aquarium water regularly as mentioned before. Regular surges in ammonia and/or nitrite are sure signs of over-feeding, overstocking or inadequate filtration for your livestock load. Like people, overweight fish can suffer from life-threatening illnesses such as kidney and liver failure or dropsy just to name a few. Feed your fish enough to keep them robust and healthy and avoid the tendency to over-feed.

Compatibility – If you were to live in a household where there was constant fighting, bickering and badgering, you would likely suffer from stress. Fish can suffer from these same factors within an aquarium. A fish that is constantly chased, nipped at and/or bullied will eventually become weak and likely die or succumb to disease organisms that could even affect your other fish. Even though all of your fish may get along well now, as they mature, certain fish can become targets for aggression. For the health of the entire aquarium, it is best to remove fish that bully all the other fish in the aquarium. If you have just one fish that is constantly being abused by all of the other tank mates, then remove the timid fish and keep all of your other species. Weak fish eventually have weak immune systems due to the stress. Fish that become weak will not just be targets of abuse from your other fish; they will be targets for a disease problem for the entire aquarium.

2008 POND TOUR TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT TIDELINE!!



It is nearly time again for the Charleston Showa Koi Club's 2008 Pond Tour. Tickets are now available for purchase at Tideline Aquatics and many other local retailers all over Charleston. What is the Pond Tour you ask?



The Charleston Showa Pond Tour 2008 schedule contains 40 garden ponds and koi ponds found here in the Charleston area. With your ticket you will be able to spend the entire day traveling from home to home viewing each uniquely beautiful water garden feature. You can visit one pond or as many as you can fit into the day, you make the decision as you are your own guide, In past tours, many come as families or groups of friends traveling together to see each unique pond. From massive koi ponds hidden within sculptured Japanese style gardens to small intimate garden ponds planted with blooming lilies, each pond will be an adventure. You do not have to be a pond lover to experience this once a year event, you just have to enjoy nature

and all the beauty it brings when put together in a scenic water garden feature. Tickets are available now for this June event. A portion of the total proceeds go directly to the Animal Society of Charleston (formerly John Ancrum SPCA).



THEY'RE BACK!!!



ADULT COLOR ATLANTIC SAILFIN BLENNY MALE
We just received a shipment of Caribbean Sailfin
Blennies for the first time in about a year! These
guys are only about 1" long and make perfect
specimens for small and large reef aquariums.
Other than showing off their impressive dorsal
fin to other tank mates, they are completely at
peace with all fish and invertebrates. We only
received six of these guys so come early and put
a hold on one of these striking little blennies
from the Caribbean.

DON'T MISS OUT THIS TIME AROUND!!

What's New At Tideline

FEEDERS (SEE BELOW!!):

Feeder Goldfish (OUT), Feeder Rosy Redds (GETTING LOW), Feeder Guppies (OUT), Feeder Crayfish (PLENTY), Feeder Fiddler Crabs (PLENTY), Live Black Worms (RUNNING LOW).

Feeder Ghost Shrimp are still not available!! All of our suppliers are receiving shipments of Ghost Shrimp that are not surviving! They are desperately trying to solve the issues with this highly sought after feeder item.

German Hans Discus (NOW IN STOCK!):

Red Turquoise Discus, Blue Pigeon Blood Discus, Blue Snakeskin Discus, Marlboro Red Discus, Blue Diamond Discus, Red Scribbled Discus. As always, these discus are in perfect condition and even eating dried foods!

FRESHWATER FISH:

Livebearers – Super Fancy Guppies (locally bred), Marigold Swordtails, Red Velvet Swordtails, Assorted Platies, Black Yucatan Mollies, Silver Lyretail Mollies.

Catfish/Loaches/Plecostomus – Rarely Corydoras Cervinus Catfish (HUGE), Albino Corydoras Catfish, Tank Bred Beautiful Corydoras Sterbae Catfish, Spotted Pictus Catfish, Baby Hoplosternum Catfish, 2" Clown Loaches, Rubber Dwarf Plecostomus, Common Plecostomus, Angelicus Loaches, Striata Loaches.

Brackish – Large Red Ruby Scat, Silver Scatophagus, Green Spotted Pufferfish, Bumble Bee Gobies, Archerfish, Mudskippers.

Tetras / Rasboras / Barbs / Danios — White Clouds, Large Tiger Barbs, Pencilfish, Diamond Bleeding Heart Tetras, Red Serpae Tetras, XL Congo Tetras, Rummynose Tetras, XL Neon Tetras.

Gouramis / Bettas – Pearl White Male Fighter Bettas, Assorted Color Female Bettas, Gold Gouramis, Opaline Gouramis, Large Pearl Gouramis.

Cichlids (Dwarf, South American, African) – Geophagus Surinamensis Eartheaters, German

Blue Rams, Altum Angelfish, Medium Green Terrors, Texas Cichlids, Jack Dempseys, Firemouths, Chocolate Cichlids, Assorted Tanganyika Cichlids, Assorted African Mbuna Cichlids.

Other – Denisonii Roseline Sharks (awesome color), Polypterus Palmus, Leporinus Fasciatus, African Ropefish, Tank Bred Black Ghost Knives, Electric Green Glo-Fish (finally), Clown Killiefish (cool), African Clawed Frogs, Albino Clawed Frogs, Dwarf African Frogs, Orange Bee Japonica Shrimp, Red Cherry Shrimp, Regular Japonica Shrimp.

Goldfish – Medium Black Butterfly Moors, Medium Red Cap Orandas, Medium Red & White Orandas, Medium Red & White Ryukins, Medium Red Orandas, Small Assorted Orandas.

Koi, Pond Fish and Pond Plants – Butterfly Koi, M/L Shubunkins, M/L Domestic Koi and more Small Domestic Koi just arrived! Our pond area is now open and is filled to the brim with Comet Goldfish (medium and jumbo), Shubunkins, koi (Domestic & Japanese), water lilies, oxygenators, jumbo bullfrog tadpoles, bog plants and floating island plants. Japanese Koi are stunning! Tropical lilies, lotus, new floating island plants and new bog plants are all in stock and most are already flowering! The tropicals and lotus are of excellent quality and size. King of Siam tropical lilies are here but will not be ready to take home for about 5 more days.

Live Aquarium Plants (Now in Stock):— Giant Hygrophylia, Broad Leaf Red Lugwigia, M/L Amazon Sword Plants, Ludwigia Peruensis, Water Wisteria (H. difformis), Green Wedntii Crypts, Red Wedntii Cryptps, Red Nesaea, Pog. Helferi.

The list above represents only the most recent livestock shipment. We have MANY other species available at the store!

SALTWATER FISH:

Angels / Butterflyfish — Bright Red Flame Angelfish, Coral Beauty Angelfish, Eiblii Angelfish, Halfblack Angelfish, Asfur Angelfish, Queen Angelfish, Koran Angelfish, Lemon Peel Angelfish, Passer Angelfish. Clownfish – M/L Tank Bred Ocellaris Clownfish, Black Percula Clownfish, Gold Bar Maroon Clownfish, Regular Maroon Clownfish, XXL True Percula Clownfish, Medium True Percula Clownfish, Ocellaris Clownfish, Sebae Clownfish, Tomato Clownfish.

Gobies / Blennies – Caribbean Sailfin Blennies, Tiger Wardi Watchman Gobies, Firefish Gobies, Regular Algae Blennies, Scooter Blennies, Pink Spot Elongated Algae Blennies (New), Gold Canary Blennies, Yashia Haze Gobies, Rainfordi Gobies, Diamond Sifter Gobies, Dragon Sifter Gobies, Yellow Watchman Gobies.

Wrasses / Hogfish – Yellow Coris Wrasses, Red Arrowhead Possum Wrasses (very cool), Small Harlequin Tuskfish, Rainbow Tonga "Q" Wrasses, Dragon Wrasses, Juvenile Red Coris Wrasses, Lunare Wrasses, Brown Bird Wrasses.

Tangs / Rabbitfish – Blue Regal Tangs, Powder Brown Tangs, Yellow Tangs, Orangefin Tominiensis Tangs, Foxface Rabbitfish.

Triggerfish / Eels / Puffers – Spotted Dogface Pufferfish, Porcupine Pufferfish, Baby Rare Stellatus Pufferfish, Dogface Pufferfish, Valentini Pufferfish, Niger Triggerfish, XXL Niger Triggerfish, Clown Triggerfish, Baby Humu Triggerfish, M/L Humu Triggerfish, Small Snowflake Moray Eels, Banded Moray Eel, Small Chainlink Moray Eels.

Lionfish – Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Volitan Lionfish.

Other – Blue Spotted Jawfish, Pearly Jawfish, Kauderni Hifin Cardinalfish, Royal Grammas, Small Tassled Filefish, Sunburst Fathead Anthias, Purple Rhinopias Scorpionfish, Assorted Damselfish.

INVERTEBRATES:

Snails / Cucumbers / Starfish / Urchins — Atlantic Turbin Snails, Pin Cushion Urchins, Atlantic Brown Brittle Starfish, XL Nassarius Sand Sifting Snails, Chocolate Chip Starfish, Pyramid Trochus Snails, Cateye Turbo Snails, Tuxedo Urchins, XL Cucumbers, Red/Orange Linkia Reef Starfish.

Crustaceans – Blueleg Reef Hermits, Anemone Shrimp, Anemone Crabs, Porcelain Crabs, Caribbean Peppermint Shrimp, Sand Sifting

Horseshoe Crabs, Atlantic Scarlet Redleg Reef Hermits, Green Emerald Crabs, Arrow Crabs, Bright Red Fire Shrimp, Medium Cleaner Shrimp, Tiger Pistol Shrimp, Sally Lite Foot Crabs, Large Electric Blue Reef Hermits, Redtip Cortez Reef Hermits.

Corals / Polyps / Mushrooms – Green
Toadstool Fiji Leather Corals, Green Tree
Leather Corals, Super Neon Candy Caulestrea
Corals, Red Chili Corals, Cabbage Leather
Corals, Caribbean Coralimorph Mushroom
Polyps, Bright Green Wellsophylia Corals,
Orange Sun Tubastrea Corals, Assorted Color
Indonesian Mushroom Rocks, Orange/Red Yuma
Mushroom Rocks, Bright Orange Caribbean
Ricordea Polyps, Awesome Hammer Corals,
Super Frogspawn Corals, Nice Torch Corals,
SUPER Blasstomussa Wellsi Corals, Toadstool
Leather Corals.

Other – Golden Yellow Cultured Derasa Clams (3 sizes), Atlantic Feather Dusters, Dwarf Green Seahares, Flowering Rock Anemones, Ultra Green Bubble Anemones, True Pink Rose Bubble Anemones, Pink Feather Dusters, Nice Selection of Cured Bright Purple Live Rock.

This list is based on our most recent shipments of saltwater livestock. There are many other species available in the store not included in this list.