



tideline newsletter tideline aquatics

Tideline Aquatics Store Hours

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

LIONFISH FOR THE HOME AQUARIUM



VOLITAN LIONFISH (PTEROIS VOLITANS)

Lionfish belong to the family Scorpaenidae. These fish all have venomous spines which can inflict a sting so painful it can bring the manliest of men to their knees (ask our former store manager Justin – though I wouldn't call him the manliest of all men lol – just kidding Justin). The venom is stored in glands at the base of the dorsal, pelvic and anal spines. When threatened, lionfish position themselves forward giving warning that if you come any closer you may be stung by the venomous spines. These spines are unbelievably sharp and will inject the victim with venom remarkably quickly with even the tiniest of jabs! That said, lionfish are generally safe with any fish that will not fit into their large mouths.

There are a few exceptions to that rule though. The Undulated Triggerfish (known for its evilness) is one of these fish. We know of several instances where this triggerfish bites away the spines and fins of lionfish without even being stung! We have also found that large eels and groupers will swallow a small lionfish head first without being stung by the venomous spines.



DWARF LIONFISH (DENDROCHIRUS ZEBRA)

When choosing a lionfish for your aquarium you should make a few considerations. What size aquarium do you have? What other fish do you desire for your aquarium? Do you ever want to house crustaceans (shrimp, crabs, etc) in your aquarium?



FUZZY DWARF LIONFISH (DENDROCHIRUS BRACHYPTERUS)

There are many species of lionfish. Some grow to a size of 18" or more while others may only reach about 8" in length. The Volitan Lionfish, *Pterois volitans* (pictured left) is the largest of the lionfish. Though it may be small when you purchase it, these fish grow quickly and require a large aquarium with other large species that will not fit into its monstrous mouth. The Volitan lionfish is one of the easiest of the lionfish to keep in captivity and is available in colorations from nearly jet black to red. These fish may only eat live food when first introduced but can quickly be trained to accept frozen meaty foods like shrimp, krill, silversides and squid. Never feed any lionfish species freshwater goldfish. These are completely non-nutritious to the lionfish and will cause problems for the fish over time (problems that can lead to death!). The key to keeping your lionfish healthy is a mixture of foods – never just one food all the time. Just remember, lionfish will eat anything (fish, food or invertebrate) that will fit into its mouth!

Most marine fish endemic to areas where lionfish are found have a natural instinct to stay away from the venomous spines of these fish. Of course there are instances where a fish darts to get food and inadvertently gets stung by the lionfish in the process. These will lead to the death of the fish that was stung. But in areas where lionfish are not endemic a species does not have that built-in natural instinct. This is the case with fish from the Caribbean (at least for now). Marine fish from the Caribbean like Queen Angelfish, French Angelfish, Gray Angelfish and Caribbean Triggerfish are often stung if housed with lionfish. If you want to house Caribbean species in your aquarium, be aware that these fish are more likely to be accidentally stung as they are unfamiliar with lionfish species. This could soon change with time as the Volitan lionfish was accidentally released into the Caribbean several years ago. Now these non-native lionfish are rapidly breeding in the Caribbean and have been seen along the coast from Florida to New York! Nonetheless, it is best to NOT house Caribbean fish with lionfish. You should also avoid housing long slender bodied fish or small fish (gobies, blennies, etc) with lionfish as they will eventually be food for your hungry lion. Even the smallest of lionfish species

grows large enough to swallow most small fish species.



FUMANCHU LIONFISH (DENDROCHIRUS BIOCELLATUS)

Lionfish are considered to be a "reef safe" species as they will never harm live corals in the reef aquarium. Actually lionfish prefer an aquarium loaded with live rock caves and coral heads. BUT be aware that neither small fish nor crustaceans can be kept in the aquarium with them as it will soon be dinner time for the lionfish. Different lionfish species can be housed together in the same aquarium as long as the size of each fish is considered. A large volitan lionfish will eat a smaller lionfish if it will fit into its mouth. But if a group of similarly sized mixed lionfish are placed together there are usually no issues with compatibility fighting.



ANTENNATA LIONFISH (PTEROIS ANTENNATA)

Nearly every lionfish species is hardy in the aquarium as long as it is collected properly and handled properly during the collection process. Dwarf lionfish, Antennata lionfish, Fumanchu Lionfish and Radiata lionfish are all more prone to the disease organism *Brooklynella* than the larger Volitan lionfish. These same lionfish are also most sensitive to copper-based treatments

meaning you should watch your lionfish closely if you have to treat the aquarium with a copper-based parasite treatment. All new fish are best quarantined before being added to the main aquarium (but unfortunately most aquarists don't set up a quarantine aquarium).



RADIATA LIONFISH (PTEROIS RADIATA)

When purchasing a lionfish from your local aquarium store, you should first examine the lionfish you are considering very closely. Check for any damaged tissue covering the spines of the fish. Take a close view of the body of the lionfish looking for any patches of discoloration on the skin (a sure sign of the disease organism *Brooklynella*).



HAWAIIAN LIONFISH (PTEROIS SPHEX)

The lionfish you are considering should be breathing normally (not panting). Last, have the store employee feed the fish to see if it will accept food. Though it may only eat live food (like grass shrimp or saltwater feeder fish) at first, you can easily train your lionfish to accept more nutritious frozen food fare with a little patience. If you start with a healthy specimen and give it good water quality and nutrition, lionfish will survive for many years in the home aquarium.

Just remember this... If you are ever stung by a lionfish you should immediately call a medical professional and submerge the sting in water that

is as hot as you can possibly stand it. The hot water degrades the venom but be prepared for hours of agony. Lionfish don't try to sting their owners. It is most often the owners that become complacent when working on the aquarium and spook their lionfish that causes an accidental sting encounter. If you are ever stung, you will NEVER become complacent again....



RUSSELL'S LIONFISH (PTEROIS RUSSELLI)

IT IS FINALLY HERE!!!



The Brightwell Aquatics Marine Salt is now in stock at Tideline Aquatics. We have both the 50 gallon mix and the 150 gallon buckets in stock. This is a premium salt mix that is blended here in the USA (not in China) that mixes crystal clear with specifications that match actual seawater when mixed with reverse osmosis freshwater. Be

sure to print off the coupon listed on our website for a special introductory price on the 50 gallon bag size. See the difference!!

AGE OF AQUARIUM IS NOW CLOSED.....



Another victim of the economic downturn has hit our area with the closing of Age of Aquarium on Sam Rittenburg Blvd. Tideline Aquatics has always maintained a close friendship with the owner and employees of this store and we wish them all only the best in their future ventures. Tideline Aquatics wants to welcome Age of Aquarium customers to our store for their future purchases. If we do not stock an item you purchased from Age of Aquarium, please let us know and we will be happy to bring that product into our line. Remember everyone, even though the internet may dazzle some with cut-rate pricing on some items, if you don't support your local aquarium stores then more of them will vanish from your area. When you purchase from the internet, they can send you whatever they want from any area they want. You don't know if the fish or invert is in good health, you don't know if it is eating, you don't know if it's the right color (a super picture of the best specimen posted on the internet guarantees you nothing), you don't know how it's been handled and you don't even know what area it was collected from... Are all those "I don't knows" worth saving a few dollars... You be the judge.

THE TIDELINE AQUATICS AUGUST AQUARIUM GIVE-A-WAY IS ON....



Through the entire month of August every time you visit Tideline Aquatics you can sign up for a chance to win a 29 Gallon Biocube Aquarium and Cabinet Stand. There is no purchase required to enter our give-a-way – all you have to do is visit the store and sign up! We will draw a winner from the bucket on September 1st. The more you visit the store, the greater the chance for you to win the aquarium so come on by and sign up this month for our August Aquarium Give-a-Way....

SIGN UP!! 

Go to www.twitter.com and create your own personal account. It's FREE!!!! Then find us by searching for: TidelineAquatic (notice there is no "s" on the end of aquatic. Sign up to "follow" us and even add the option to receive tweets via text messages to your cell phone. With your twitter account you will receive notifications of livestock shipments, product specials and best of all "twitter only" super specials sent out randomly to our twitter followers.

CMAC – THE COLUMBIA MARINE AQUARIUM CLUB IS COMING TO TIDELINE!

On Saturday, August 22 at 7:00pm the Columbia Marine Aquarium Club (CMAC) will hold their monthly meeting at Tideline Aquatics. Anyone that wants to attend this meeting is welcomed.

All we ask is that you bring a folding chair for your comfort. This is a well-organized club of dedicated hobbyists that do support their local fish stores. We will have simple food and drink provided by Tideline Aquatics along with a few surprises for those that attend. This is an excellent forum for discussions about aquariums with others that enjoy the hobby as much as you do! We look forward to hosting this meeting next Saturday, August 22nd at 7:00pm sharp. Please park behind the store and enter through the back door.

Don't forget to show your military ID at the check-out counter! Tideline Aquatics now offers a discount to both active and retired military persons with a military ID!!

Also, print off web coupons for even more savings when you shop with us!!

WHAT'S NEW AT [tideline aquatics?](#)

ON THE MENU THIS WEEK:

Feeder Guppies, Feeder Goldfish (out), Feeder Crayfish, Feeder Fiddler Crabs, Feeder Rosy Reds, Feeder Ghost Shrimp (low), Live Black Worms (out).

FRESHWATER FISH:

Rare or Unusual – Rare Spotted Freshwater Stingray, JUMBO Clown Loach, Electric Blue Rams, White Claw Borneo Shrimp, Super Red Kribensis, Synodontis petricola Catfish, Synodontis decorus Catfish, Betta enisae, Juvenile Uaru Cichlids, Colombian Tiger Pufferfish, Healthy Banded Kuhli Loaches (very rare these days), Farlowella Catfish, Zorro Catfish, Corydoras adolfoi Catfish, XL Fire Eels, Black Arowana, Zebra Caecilian Aquatic Worm, Pictus scades Catfish.

Livebearers – Dawn Platies, Sunburst Platies, Red Wag Platies, Gold Dust Mollies, Red Platies, Redtail Dalmation Platies, 24K Tuxedo Platies, Mickey Mouse Platies, Assorted Swordtails, Sunburst Platies, Assorted M/L Lyretail Mollies, Dalmation Mollies.

Catfish/Loaches/Plecostomus – Large RARE Scades Pictus Catfish, Black Bumble Bee Catfish, Four Line Pictus Catfish, Zorro Catfish, Adolfoi Corydoras Catfish, Green Emerald Brochus Corydoras Catfish, Agassizi Corydoras Catfish, Synodontis decorus Catfish, Synodontis flavitaeniatus Catfish, Synodontis multipunctatus Catfish, Synodontis 'Jaguar' Catfish, Botia lohachata Loaches, Farlowella Twig Catfish, Green Gold Corydoras Catfish, L200 Green Phantom Plecostomus, L204 Emperor Plecostomus, Small Albino Bristlenose Plecostomus, Sterbae Corydoras Catfish, Rainbow Sharks, XXL Juruense Shovelnose Catfish, Synodontis Petricola Catfish, True Tigrinus Shovelnose Catfish, Golden Dojo Loaches, Angelicus Botia Loaches, Chinese Algae Eaters, Hypostomus Plecostomus, Common Plecostomus, Albino Corydoras Catfish, Lg Clown Loaches, Small Clown Loaches, Green Corydoras Catfish, Otocinclus Dwarf Algae Eaters.

Brackish – XL Green Spotted Pufferfish, Colombian Tiger Pufferfish, Small Green Spotted Pufferfish, Green Scatophagus, Red Scatophagus, Mono Sebae, Mono Argentius.

Tetras / Rasboras / Barbs / Danios – Giant Danios, XL Gold Tiger Barbs, Lg Congo Tetras, Rainbow Emperor Tetras, Three Spot Paraguay Panda Tetras, Filamentosus Barbs, Zebra Danios, Round-Banded Barbs, Bloodfin Tetras, Pristella Maxillaris Tetras, Cardinal Tetras, Large Neon Tetras, Tiger Barbs, Gold Barbs, Scissortail Rasboras, Espei Pencilfish, Harlequin Rasboras, Clown Rasboras, Clown Barbs, Black Skirt Tetras, Green Tiger Barbs, Assorted Glo-Fish.

Gouramis / Bettas – Pearl Leeri Gouramis, Male Bettas, White Pearl Fighter Bettas, Gold Honey Gouramis, Platinum Gouramis, Pink Kissing Gouramis, Blue Gouramis, Female Bettas, Super Color Fancy Dwarf Gouramis, Ctenopoma ansorgii.

Cichlids (Dwarf, South American, African) – Lg German Blue Rams, Super Red Kribensis, M/L Jaguar Cichlids, Fuscotaeniatus Cichlids, Lg Obliquidens Cichlids, Electric Blue German Rams, Rainbow Cichlids, Geophagus Surinamensis Eartheaters, Medium Green Terrors, Assorted Medium Peacock Cichlids, Assorted Mbuna Cichlids, Neolamprologus

Calvus Cichlids, Neolamprologus Compressiceps Cichlids, Carpentis Texas Cichlids, Premium Assorted Mbuna African Cichlids, Pink Convict Cichlids, Jack Dempsey Cichlids, Large and Medium Gold Severums, Small Assorted Oscars, Medium Assorted Oscars, Jumbo Peacock Bass.

Angelfish / Discus – Assorted Medium and Large Domestic Angelfish, M/L Assorted German Discus.

Other – XL Fire Eel, Zig Zag Eels, African Ropefish, African Clawed Frogs, Albino Clawed Frogs, Freshwater Flounders, Orange Bee Shrimp, Black Arowana, Freckled African Clawed Frogs, Albino Clawed Frogs, Dwarf African Frogs, Boesemani Rainbowfish, Threadfin Rainbowfish, Turquoise Rainbowfish, Striped Peacock Eels, Tiretrack Eels, Yellowtail Spiny Eels, South American Teacup Stingrays, Beautiful Dwarf Rainbow Gudgeon Gobies, XL Japonica Algae Eating Shrimp, Japanese Trapdoor Snails, Mystery Snails, Nerite Snails, Jumbo Peacock Bass, Assorted Fancy Rainbowfish, Medium Silver Arowanas, Polypterus palmus, Polypterus ornatipinnus, Ctenopoma ansorgii, Electric Blue Crayfish, Roseline Denisonii Sharks (Tank Bred!), Bala Sharks, Redtail Black Sharks, Lungfish (huge), African Butterflyfish, Distichodus Sexfasciatus.

Goldfish – Lg Calico Ryukins, Small Assorted Fantails, Medium Assorted Fantails, Medium Black Moors, Medium Chinese Orandas, Medium Chinese Ryunkins, Calico Fantails, Lionheads.

Pond Fish: 2”-3” Domestic Koi, 6” Domestic Koi, 5” Shiro Utsuri Koi, 8” Butterfly Koi, 6” Butterfly Koi, 6” Premium Butterfly Koi, Jumbo Domestic Koi.

SALTWATER FISH:

Angels / Butterflyfish – Asfur Angelfish, Hawaiian Teardrop Butterflyfish, Fiji Mertensii Butterflyfish, Coral Beauty Angelfish, Black & White Heniochus Butterflyfish, Koran Angelfish.

Clownfish – Pair Snowflake Ocellaris Clownfish, Small Tank Bred Ocellaris Clownfish, Red Tomato Clownfish, Yellow Stripe Maroon Clownfish, Black Clarkii Clownfish, Ocellaris Clownfish, True Percula

Clownfish, Black Onyx Percula Clownfish, Maroon Clownfish.

Gobies / Blennies / Jawfish – Neon Tiger Gobies, Pearly Jawfish, Common Algae Blennies, Yashia Haze Gobies, Monster Shrimp Goby, Yellow Watchman Gobies, Blue Fin Watchman Gobies, Hector’s Gobies, Dragon Sifter Gobies, Starry Algae Blennies, Bicolor Blennies, Clown Gobies, Black Cap Jawfish, Candy Cane Gobies, Bullseye Jawfish, Black & White Priolepsis Gobies, Orange Spot Guttata Gobies, Randallii Gobies, Pink Barred Gobies, Bulettehead Reef Blennies.

Wrasses / Hogfish – Candy Hogfish, Twinspot Coris Wrasse, Dragon Wrasse, Lunare Wrasse, Male Banana Wrasses, Common Christmas Wrasses, Two Spot Wrasse, Coral Hogfish, Red Christmas Wrasses, Sixline Wrasses, Surge Wrasse, Indo Harlequin Tuskfish

Tangs / Rabbitfish – Powder Blue Tangs, Blue Regal Tangs, Java Rabbitfish (not reef safe), Yellow Tangs, Sri Lankan Clown Tangs, Sailfin Tangs, Small Naso Tangs, Gold Spotted Rabbitfish, Mimic Half Black Tangs, Fowleri Tang.

Triggerfish / Eels / Puffers – Niger Triggerfish, Baby Starry Pufferfish, Dogface Pufferfish, Valentini Sharpnose Pufferfish, Leopard Sharpnose Pufferfish, Rectangulus Triggerfish, Humu Triggerfish, Clown Triggerfish, Snowflake Moray Eels.

Lionfish/Scorpionfish – Small and Medium Black Volitan Lionfish

Other – Shark Egg Capsule, Marine Betta Comets, Green Wolf Pseudochromis, Hifin Rooster Snapper, Assorted Damsel fish, Evansi Anthias, Longnose Hawkfish, Australian Red Scatophagus, Springeri Pseudochromis, Fiji Devil Damsel fish, Mono Argentius, Silver Scatophagus, Mandarin Dragonettes, Pajama Cardinalfish.

INVERTEBRATES:

Snails / Cucumbers / Starfish / Urchins – Atlantic Turbin Snails, African Starfish, Medium Nassarius Sifter Snails, Babylonia Sifter Snails, Short Spine Urchins, Nerite Snails, Cerith Snails, Astrea Reef Snails.

Crustaceans – Tiger Pistol Shrimp, Atlantic Pistol Shrimp, Porcelain Crabs, Golden Coral

Banded Shrimp, Coral Banded Shrimp, Anemone Crabs, Zebra Reef Hermits, Red Tip Reef Hermits, Horseshoe Crabs.

Corals / Polyps / Mushrooms – Red & Green Super Trachyphyllia Coral, Purple Digita Montipora Coral, Leather Corals, Porites Coral w/ Colored Christmas Tree Worms, Yellow Polyps, Sinularia Leather Corals, Pineapple Favia Coral, Aussie Orange & Blue Lobophyllia, Green Merulina Corals, Blasstomussa Corals, Assorted Indonesian Zoanthid Rocks, Green Star Polyp Rocks, Echinophyllia Corals, Cultured Acropora Solitariensis, Australian Scolymia Corals, Australian AWESOME Acanthastrea Corals, Assorted Mushroom Rocks.

Other – Caribbean Aqua-Cultured Live Rock, Long Tentacle Anemones, Carpet Anemone, Fancy Bubble Anemones, Fiji Live Rock, Rock Anemones, Chaetomorpha Algae for Refugiums, Assorted Feather Dusters, Sea Apple.