

Highlights

- 📁 The meeting at the Thompson's last month
- 📁 Pre-Tour, Friday June, 23rd at 6:30 p.m.
- 📁 Bead Filters

June Meeting is Monday, June 20th 7:00 p.m.

- 📁 At Hazel Colbert's & Tamara Colbert-Maschino's water garden at 502 Wedgewood Drive. From 6th and Jardot, drive North on Jardot, ½ mile to Kelsey Lane. Turn West (left) for 1 block to Wedgewood. Turn North (right) on Wedgewood to 502. It is on the left side of the road as you curve around.



Contact Information

President: Sharral Tye 612-0698
Vice President: Glenna Cramer 707-0373
Treasurer: Sally Smith 377-1305

www.stillwaterwatergardens.org

What a beautiful May evening, a little nippy, however. Do you remember the August meeting we had at JC and Donna's one year and Donna was handing out cold, damp washcloths, what a difference?

At this meeting we saw some faces we have not seen in a while. It was great to see Jim & Barbara Kirby, Paulette Kraybill, and Roger and Stephanie Fry. We enjoyed some great food and also feasted our eyes upon some gorgeous plants that had us asking for their names and habits.



Mike from Pond Pro gave a well received presentation and then led an enthusiastic discussion on new products and disappearing water falls. He

also talked about how marketing has changed to accommodate: young couples with children who may choose a disappearing waterfall for child safety reasons, but who want to have the option to change it into a full water garden later when the kids are grown. He also said many water gardeners now have the option of going from full water garden mode to a disappearing waterfall as they get older. That usually means lower maintenance and of course no fish to care for.

One tip I picked up that I had not heard before is—to make a dry stream bed look real, yes, you have to make it look like it isn't straight, but curved. However you do that by laying your liner out in a straight line but strategically placing boulders in it to change the "would be" water's course. That's how nature does it and the result is a natural look.

The other thing we learned is we sure would like to have Mike invite us over to see his personal water features. They sound very interesting.

The **2011 Water Garden Tour is June 25th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Booklets are already on sale at:** Oasis, Keathly's, Quality Plants, Stillwater National Bank, and at Richard Danel's Varsity Barber Shop.

2011 Water Garden Tour Saturday June 25th 9-5

Also booklets will be sold at the "old" Wal-Mart on Saturday, June 11th from 10a-4p, and again on Saturday, June 18th same times at the new Wal-Mart on west 6th. We do need people to help; call Sharral @ 612-0698 or John 377-1305.

There will be 14 gardens on the tour. And of course as in previous years we will be having a **pre-tour** starting at 5:30 p.m. on the Friday night before the tour. We will meet at the Cramer's the first garden on the tour and proceed from there. That is 6218 Mesa Circle. Since there are so many gardens we will not go to Oklahoma Gardening, and Farm Bureau to save time and allow us to spend more time at each site.

I hope you like this year's tour booklet. We ended up using a picture I had on my computer for the cover. I took it at least 5 years ago when our club was having photo contests. I hope you like it. You will notice the lily leaves are fluted which means this is a tropical lily. I remember it bloomed at night when all the other lilies were turning in for the night.

Did you Know????? I did not know Lowe's gives a 10% discount to Active duty and Retired military people. You just have to show your military ID. What a deal! Thank you Lowe's.

All BEAD FILTERS Are NOT Created Equal

a Product Comparison by the Pond Doc

Years ago I wrote an article entitled *All Filters Are NOT Created Equal* (which, by the way, I really need to update!). It delves into the different types of filters on the market, explaining what they are, how they work and the pros and cons of each type. Since that article was written the bead filter has grown so much in popularity with its hands-off backwashing capabilities that it's spawned a whole array of pressurized, back-washable filters. Some

of them are not bead filters at all but look exactly the same on the outside.

These masqueraders (such as Aqua UV's Ultima II and comparable filters) claim to provide both mechanical and biological filtering. They are less expensive than the true bead filters such as the ProBead and Aquadyne. People who have bought them with whom I've spoken often thought that they were getting the same quality for less money and did not realize that they were getting lesser filtering capabilities. Perhaps this article can help people know exactly what they are buying.

For the sake of this article I will call the true bead filters "bead filters" and I'll call the other "tube filters" because that's the type media they use.

So what exactly is all the fuss about? What is the difference between a bead filter and a tube filter?

The biggest difference is in the size and style of media used. In true bead filters a small, floating plastic bead is used - usually around 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch long. Thus we get the name "bead filter". The smaller beads capture fine particles resulting in a more thorough mechanical filtering of the water. In the tube filter long, plastic sinking tubes are used. These are not beads at all and are much larger than the beads used in bead filters. They allow smaller particles to pass right through and do not filter as fine.

Thank you Pond Doc for this information. There is more to this article. Click here to read the full article. <http://www.ponddoc.com/WhatsUpDoc/ProductProfiles/BeadFiltersNotEqual.htm> FYI a SWGS member told me, "If you are carrying a heavy fish load, you may as well cut to the chase and get a bead filter." I guess it saves a lot of head aches.

**June meeting—don't forget--
Monday, June 20th 7 p.m. at
Tamara & Hazel Colbert's
water garden 502 Wedgewood
Drive. See directions on page
one.**

**“Get those hands wet!”
Sharral Tye, President**