

### Highlights

- 📁 Floating Islands
- 📁 We are **meeting at a new time**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, at 7 p.m.
- 📁 Our Next Meeting is May 19th at 7 p.m.

### Next Meeting

Monday, May 19th at 7 p.m. at the water garden of Roger & Liz Whitaker 28521 County Rd 175.  
 FROM: the intersection of 6th and western, drive 2 miles west to 6th and country club, turn right and drive north 5 miles to Lake McMurtry road. At the stop sign and the only asphalt east/west road, turn left or west and drive 2.5 miles until the road comes to a "T" ( THE EAST LAKE McMurtry ENTRANCE) Turn right and/or north 3/4 mile to my drive way on the left or west side of road. My name is on mail box and there are 2 short sections of white vinyl fence at the entrance.



**Contact Information**  
**President: Sharral Tye 612-0698 or 743-1122**  
**VP: Kathy Peacock 880-1152**  
**Treasurer: Sally Smith 377-1305**  
[www.stillwaterwatergardens.org](http://www.stillwaterwatergardens.org)

### Remember our Big Change!!!!

We are going to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month this year. We picked the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday to avoid some date conflicts we often hear about. We hope this will allow the opportunity for more people to attend our meetings. **This month's meeting** will be about "Floating Islands". Our host, Roger Whitaker has made one and he will show us how to do it. For those who are not so handy,



there are commercial ones you can buy. What you see here floats, and there are five cut out areas to place standard pots into. Other islands have

one large pot in it. You fill the pots with flowers, ornamental grasses, or aquatic plants. You plant it like you would any other container arrangement. Use some tall plants, some trailing ones, and a few of medium height to fill in the middle. Choose plants that have the same growing requirements. Here are some plants you could use in the sun: Horse tail or dwarf papyrus. Those would look good planted in the middle since this island will be viewed from all angles. The outer pots could have some vinca to add color with out having something you have to deadhead. Then add some blue star creeper to trail and cover the edges. If you planted an island in the shade you might consider: Maiden Hair Fern for the tall plant, golden creeping Jenny as the trailer.

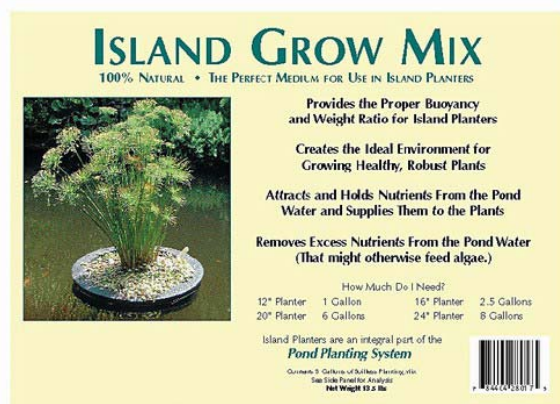
**Public is welcome to attend SWGS meetings.**

Do you remember or recognize the flowers pictured here? There is a whole family of



carnivorous bog plants called pitcher plants. The Venus Fly Trap is the most known. When we learned about those at a water garden meeting a couple years ago,

I tried them out near my water garden, but became discouraged because I was supposed to use rain water or distilled water to water them. They can not tolerate chlorinated water. That was a king size pain. If one planted them in an island, they would be in pond water—no chlorine. It might be worth another try. They are beautiful and so unusual.



You can buy a commercial planting mix to fill your pots. It provides for the proper buoyancy and weight ration for island planters, and creates an ideal environment for your plants. It attracts and holds nutrients from the pond water and supplies them to the plants.

You may be wondering what keeps these islands from floating into the skimmer. You can screw an anchor eye bolt into the island and attach some fishing line with an anchor that sits on the bottom of your pond.

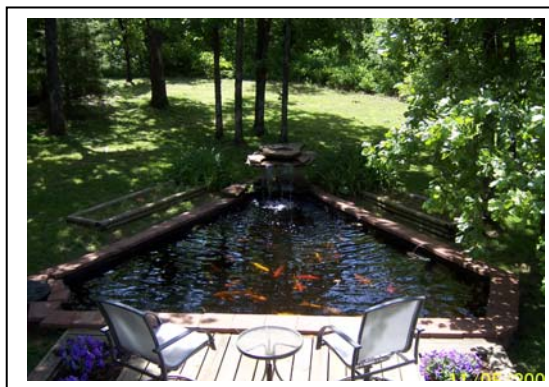
Take a look at [www.pondmart.com](http://www.pondmart.com) to find many plants suitable for an island.

This is the Gaston's water garden the night of our April meeting. The lighting was beautiful. There are rope lights outlining the water



garden. There are underwater lights as well as a lighted fogger. Pond Pro had wonderful prizes for us. They carry a great line of garden gloves. The big prize was won by our hosts. It was a Tahitian Waterfall—very nice.

We were glad to welcome several new members: Hazel Colbert and Tamera Colbert-Maschino. Hazel will have a water garden on the tour. Patricia Basta joined, and she has volunteered to help with the tour. Susan Kenslow, Wanda Shipley, Bob & Glenna Cramer, and Sylvia Simank also joined. Also there were several folks who renewed their memberships--always glad to see that. Memberships are only \$10 per family. This is Whitaker's Water Garden.



**Water Garden Tour June 21st & 22nd--9a-5p and 1-5p**