

A Brief Guide To Water Gardens

Gardening is undergoing rapid changes and new forms are being introduced with amazing frequency. Today, one of the newest trends is water gardening. This type of gardening is done specifically in sources of water such as fountains, ponds and waterfalls. They can be enhanced with rocks and with fish and lighting. In fact, you can do your water gardening in a plastic tub too. There are really several options.

The area you select for your water garden is of first importance. Both your plants and the fish in the garden will want sunlight. It is best to keep your garden away from the trees and shrubs. This is ideal because it will keep the leafy debris from entering into your garden.

You will have to preplan the size too. Your decision about size will depend on what kind of budget you have for your garden. A large garden with lighting, fishes, rock arrangements and all will be too expensive. You will also need to see what the size of your overall property is, and how much time per day you can spend tending your water garden. Time investment is an important aspect to consider.

You can use a lot of aquatic plants for your garden, but make sure you don't clutter your garden more than its halfway water level. You can use submerged or free floating plants; that depends on your preference. Some plants will spread good fragrance, some will provide a lot of oxygen to the surroundings and keep the ecosystem much healthier, and some will just spread their magical beauty. Fish will always make a great esthetic addition too, and they help by biodegrading the water garden by controlling the larva, insects and messy debris.

Algae management is an important aspect of water gardening. Too many nutrients into the garden (especially introduced through overfeeding the fish or over-fertilizing the plants) can cause bad algal growths. With optimum levels, you will have a way better alga-free garden.

Water gardens need perennial management throughout the year. You will have to also strike an optimum balance between the life in the garden and the decorative aspects of it. After some time, the garden will start taking care of itself, and you will only need to lightly look after its management.

Algal management can be done by controlling the nutrients that are introduced into the water garden and by reducing the feeding and fertilizing. Do not put in more plants than you can afford and invest in a good filter system. You will also need to replace water periodically, depending on the size of the garden. Some copper compounds, when used appropriately can control algae without harming the plants and the fish.

In fact, water gardening does not take any more time than regular gardening does, but the maintenance required is much more intensive. On the other hand, it is seen that people who are poor at regular gardening do very well at water gardening. Water gardening is certainly an excellent option for making your homestead look much more beautiful.

About the Author

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