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Danger In The Garden

By Jean Woods

I love my summer visitors to all the decorative birdhouses I have in the yard. The winter and year

round residents don't seem to nest in the bird houses too much but rather in the trees. They do however, come down to the wooden bird feeders and garden birdbath fountain I keep ready for them. I find every one has their own personality with some being braver than others. The chickadees seem to be the first line of defense, they have a very specific warning call. If I am in the house and I hear it I go out expecting to chase the neighbor's cat away. Of course they yell at me sometimes if I get to close but mostly they put up with me.

In setting up my bird friendly garden I tried to think of all the obvious dangers to my visiting friends. The bird feeders are out in the open where the cats have no where to hide but close enough to the trees so that they can quickly flee if predatory birds show up.

The garden birdbath fountain is set up the same way as the wooden bird feeders with care to not give kitties a place to hide. It is hard to keep the bird feeders close enough to trees and yet out of the reach of hungry squirrels it's a bit of a juggling job.

The front windows seem to be the biggest problem. According to the experts birds can't recognize glass and fly toward the reflection thinking it's real. The front windows get a couple each year mostly they just bang their heads, swear and fly off, though occasionally there is a fatality. Some say to paste the silhouettes of predators, but then they wouldn't be relaxed enough to eat at the bird feeders or play in the birdbath fountain so I hang wind chimes along the front and they avoid the windows. Remember to watch for various dangers when designing your visitor friendly garden.

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After working for over 20 years in an office, I decided to work at home and sell something I really like. To me there is nothing like the sound of birds chirping in the morning. So after lots of pondering I chose to help them out and provide them with their own home at

<http://www.birdbathplus.com/>

Water Garden Mosquitoes Problems

By Daniel Roshard

Water garden is one of the nicest things you can have in your garden or backyard, anyone that has planned adding a water garden to a house knows that this is not a simple task, there is a lot of thinking and planning to be done when considering this wonderful addition to the house.

As summer nears many water garden owners realize that there is a significant problem with some water gardens, this is a problem that is not evident and sometimes doesn't even show itself before the early days of the summer.

One major thing with any large body of water that is physically located in the vicinity of any house is the mosquitoes and diseases potential problems. Mosquitoes need water to live and breed, and this makes it very clear that as a water garden owner you will need to find solutions for this problem, mosquitoes can not only cause you real discomfort, they have the potential ability to transmit diseases, some of those diseases are extremely dangerous to humans.

The good thing is that by implementing a few, relatively simple tips you can prevent mosquitoes from breeding in your water garden and decrease the risk of disease significantly. One simple fact is that mosquitoes will only use a passive body of water to lay eggs and avoid laying eggs in running water, if you create a situation in which the water garden has constantly moving water the female mosquitoes will not be able to lay the eggs and you have stopped the problem before it has even begun.

Using a device that will move the water around your water garden will not only help you fight the potential danger of mosquitoes, it is also recommended for general water quality and the overall performance of your water garden. Another thing you can use to fight mosquitoes is getting fish that eat these flying problem makers, in fact there are a few kinds of fish that are enemies of the mosquitoes, and therefore your friends.

Most water garden owners love having fish in their ponds and water, it is one very special aspect of having a water garden and if you have not tried having fish in your water garden yet this may be a good time to try and enjoy this aspect of water gardens, not only you will have a fish helping you fight mosquitoes you can also discover the joy of keeping fish pets.

Another, much more serious solution to the mosquitoes problem is B.t.i. Briquettes, these floating small floating two-inch rings contain bacillus thuringiensis, which is consumed by mosquito larvae and kills them, this is the professional and most efficient way to eliminate the risk of mosquitoes, and B.t.i has been used successfully in many cities in the world already, so this is the best scientific solution for a

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water garden risk of mosquitoes. The B.t.i. will not cause harm to fish or plants in your water garden so you have no reason to worry about the health of your water garden.

If nothing of the above advice is to your liking, you can always try and find a toad that will rule your water garden and feast on the mosquitoes, whatever you decide you should be aware of the danger in having mosquitoes breed in your backyard and you would do good to research as much as you on preventing this potential danger to you, your family members and neighbors.

Daniel Roshard is an interior designer that is enchanted by outdoors, gardening and landscaping.

Daniel is exploring integration of household appliances and features to outdoors, backyards and gardens. He recently discovered Water Gardens and is writing articles for

<http://watergarden.zupatips.com/>

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