



Pacific Northwest Koi Clubs Association Members

Canada Koi Club of B.C.

Cascade Koi & Goldfish Club

**Dai-ichi Koi & Japanese Garden
Club of B.C.**

Idaho Watergarden & Koi Society

**Inland Empire Water Garden
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Northwest Koi & Goldfish Club

**Olympic Koi, Goldfish &
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Oregon Koi & Watergarden Soc.

Puget Sound Koi Club

Siskiyou Koi & Pond Club

**Washington Koi & Water
Garden Society**

Website:

WWW.PNKCA.COM

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Koi Clubs Association**



Most Asked Questions:

Do you eat these?

How many times have we heard this question? I guess the best answer would be with a question? Do you eat your pet cat or dog? Fact is, lesser quality 'Carp' are eaten all over the world, but the more valuable varieties are grown solely for enjoyment of the eye and soul, not for the stomach.

What are Koi?

Koi belong to the carp family like their cousins the goldfish. Koi come in many sizes and color classifications. The last decade has seen the introduction of new varieties and a popularity in the U.S. for the long fin type.

Are there different types of Koi?

Yes. The different types of koi are classified by the different colors and patterns they have. There are 13 groups each containing a number of sub-groups.

What is the origin of Koi?

Carp are believed to have originated in Persia. But the Chinese started the enjoyment of colored carp! However, the Japanese are the breeders credited with producing the many beautiful types of 'Nishikigoi' we enjoy today.

How long do they live?

The record is reported at 226 years, but 30 years is more common. It is not uncommon for koi to be passed down from generation to generation.

How fast do Koi grow?

Koi have varied growth rates. An average is up to 4 inches at the end of the first year, to 8" by the second year, and to 12" the third year with growth slowing after that. Koi can grow to over 30 inches in length, and the preceding growth rates are only an average. Many factors i.e., water quality, water temperatures and food can change these averages drastically.

What do Koi eat?

Commercial brands of Koi food are good. Ones with higher amounts of Wheat germ in them are better in the colder climates of the Pacific Northwest. Vegetables like Spinach, Butter Lettuce, Zucchini, cooked Sweet Potatoes are good. Fruit like Grapefruit and Watermelon provide needed Vitamin C .

How often should I feed my Koi?

Koi should be fed 3 to 4 times per day in amounts they will eat in 10 minutes. When the water temperatures decrease in winter reduce the feeding. When water temperatures are 50 degrees F. or less, DON'T FEED! Koi don't have a stomach. Only a long intestine, so if food is trapped in their gut when the water temperature drops below 50 degrees F., they run the risk of 'dropsy' (toxicity from undigested food).

Are Koi Hardy?

Yes. They can live in a variety of water conditions. The vigor, growth and health of koi can, however, be affected by the quality of the water they live in. The best conditions

are: pH of around 6.8 and temperatures around 70 degrees F.

What size pond should I have for Koi?

Rule of thumb: Pick a size your comfortable with then make it larger! In other words, we never build our first pond large enough! What is best? Well that depends on how many fish you intend on keeping, but a good starting point is at least 2500 gallons and depth for the Pacific Northwest climate should be at least 4 feet. From there, go larger to your own comfort zone.

Can I raise Koi and Goldfish together?

Not a good idea? Inter-breeding can occur, which produce unwanted ugly fish. Plus, any fancy goldfish such as Bubble-eye, Celestials and Veil Tails can be ravaged by the more vigorous Koi.

Do I need a Permit to dig a Pond?

Some areas of the country don't require permits for ponds, but **to be sure**, always check with your own local building codes and always be **sure your pond is fenced adequately**.

What is the filter of choice for most hobbyists?

Upflow filters seem to be the most popular. However, there are almost as many filter types and theories as there are hobbyists who use them, so be sure to do your homework before you settle on your choice of filtration. Also, ask lots of questions of your local Koi club members, they are always eager to help.