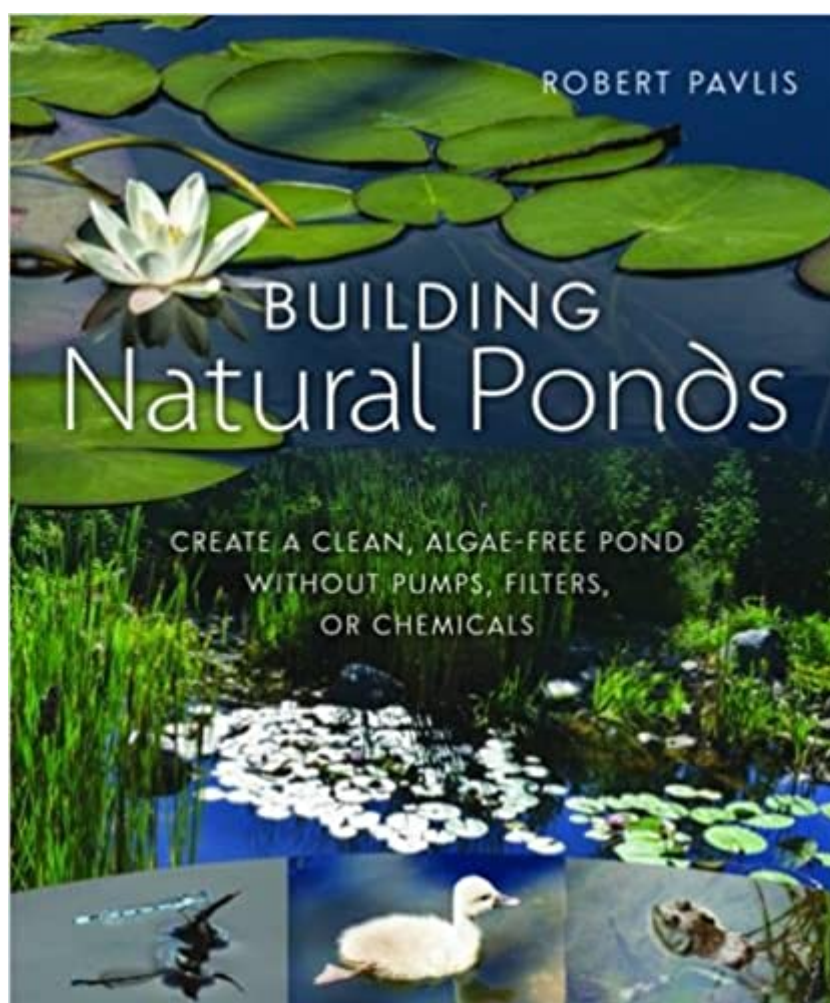


The book was found

Building Natural Ponds: Create A Clean, Algae-free Pond Without Pumps, Filters, Or Chemicals



Synopsis

Build a natural pond for wildlife, beauty, and quiet contemplation. Typical backyard ponds are a complicated mess of pipes, pumps, filters, and nasty chemicals designed to adjust pH and keep algae at bay. Hardly the bucolic, natural ecosystem beloved by dragonflies, frogs, and songbirds. The antidote is a natural pond, free of hassle, cost, and complexity and designed as a fully functional ecosystem, ideal for biodiversity, swimming, irrigation, and quiet contemplation. *Building Natural Ponds* is the first step-by-step guide to designing and building natural ponds that use no pumps, filters, chemicals, or electricity and mimic native ponds in both aesthetics and functionality. Highly illustrated with how-to drawings and photographs, coverage includes:

- * Understanding pond ecosystems and natural algae control
- * Planning, design, siting, and pond aesthetics
- * Step-by-step guidance for construction, plants and fish, and maintenance and trouble shooting
- * Scaling up to large ponds, pools, bogs, and rain gardens.

Whether you're a backyard gardener looking to add a small serene natural water feature or a homesteader with visions of a large pond for fish, swimming, and irrigation, *Building Natural Ponds* is the complete guide to building ponds in tune with nature, where plants, insects, and amphibians thrive in blissful serenity. Robert Pavlis, a Master Gardener with over 40 years of gardening experience, is owner and developer of Aspen Grove Gardens, a six-acre botanical garden featuring over 3,000 varieties of plants. A well-respected speaker and teacher, Robert is the author of *Garden Myths*, has published articles in *Mother Earth News*, *Ontario Gardening* magazine, the widely read blog GardenMyths.com, which explodes common gardening myths and gardening information site GardenFundamentals.com.

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Customer Reviews

Robert Pavlis, a Master Gardener with 40 years of gardening experience, is owner and developer of Aspen Grove Gardens, a six-acre botanical garden featuring over 3,000 varieties of plants. A popular and well-respected speaker and teacher, Robert is the author of Garden Myths, has published articles in Mother Earth News, Ontario Gardening magazine, a monthly Plant of the Month column for the Ontario Rock Garden Society website, and local newspapers. He is also the author of widely read blog GardenMyths.com, which explodes common gardening myths, and GardenFundamentals.com, which provides gardening and garden design information.

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I've had a pond for 25 years, read dozens of books, belonged to 2 pond clubs, and gone on dozens of tours, and I still learned a ton from Pavlis. Ponds can be a money pit of filters, pumps, UV lights, and treatments designed to do what he accomplishes with good design and an understanding of ecological balance. Whether you're just at the dreaming stage or you are an old ponder like me, this book is a great resource. And cheaper than barley extract or bio balls.

This is a wonderful book filled with new information on how to have a natural pond without chemicals, filters, etc.

A concise book that outlines the basic steps required to build a pond without pumps or chemicals. Additionally, the section on water plants, sketches, and photos provided me with the requisite knowledge to build a pond. Once my family moves to our rural property, we will build a pond and reference the book.

Well done and comprehensive of various types of ponds. Covers all aspects from design to completion. Good resource book with many pictures and varieties of ponds.

An easy read with much helpful information.

With *Building Natural Ponds*, author Pavlis has given us a thorough understanding of everything needed for a natural pond - whether a small front yard decorative feature or a very large swimming hole to grow trout. Unfortunately, there are only a few black and white photographs and some illustrations, so this felt much more tailored to those comfortable with building, especially those with access to power equipment. That said, I did find much in here to help ensure I can maintain a pond, even through Winter, and develop a healthy ecosystem that never needs cleaning or much maintenance. The topics covered in the book are as follows: Understanding a balanced ecosystem, Environmental benefits, Natural looking designs, Planning and design, Building, Fish, Plants, Maintenance and troubleshooting, Large-scale ponds, Pools, bogs, and rain gardens. As can be seen, quite a range of topics are covered. The writing is clean, friendly, and easy to follow. The book isn't dense, at 160 or so pages, the topic is covered neatly yet thoroughly to ensure a successful project. One front page includes 3 color photographs of the same pond at a nursery. Everything else is a very infrequent diagram or black and white photo. Reviewed from an advance reader copy provided by the publisher.

I had no real interest in building a pond as my yard is very small and filled with garden beds and fruit trees. I got the book though because I enjoy Robert Pavlis' writing in his two blogs and *Garden Myths* book. This book is very good and has me excited to someday build a natural pond.

This is an example of a writer trying to make a profit instead of an expert writing a book. This book can be summed up in a few sentences. It basically tells you to fill most of your pond up with plants. That has been a common internet misnomer for years. Why would a person go to the expense of a pond three times too big just to get rid of algae? Even worse, the author started a little forum where he himself asks basic questions a person should already know. This becomes clear when the author admits he has only created two ponds in his lifetime and then writes articles for mother earth news which appears to be as uninformative as this book since most of their writers are simple hobbyists. Not to single Mr Pavlis out because most of these types of books are equally unqualified as guides. As my name states, I am still waiting for knowledge.

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