



PONDerings®

Official Newsletter | Issue 31

of AQUA DOC®

STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTS THE PLACES WE LOVE.



Introducing Year-Round Management Programs

David Ryks, V.P. Corporate Sales, AQUA DOC Inc.

As we continue to evolve as a company, so do our service offerings. At AQUA DOC, our service territories break down in to two main areas, including our northern market (Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Toledo), and southern market (Atlanta, Raleigh). Both areas offer their own unique aspects and challenges, but in general, our southern market has a longer growing season and is more heavily focused on stormwater management. In Atlanta and Raleigh, we have increasingly found a value in Year-Round Management Programs (12 Month) for our customers' water.

(continued on page 2)

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Year-Round Management Programs *(continued from page 1)*

In our northern market, the field season continues to expand. It seems like every year it gets longer, starting earlier in the spring and ending later in the fall. Customers in Ohio and other surrounding states are also starting to see an expansion in stormwater regulatory enforcement. As these trends continue to develop, we are proud to announce Year-Round management programs (12 Month) to all our customers. These programs are mainly focused on helping our homeowners associations (HOA) and commercial property owners maintain their stormwater detention and retention basins throughout the year, but also can be taken advantage of by private lake and pond owners as well. For the time being, this offering will be known as a Winter Add-On Program but will likely transition into a Year-Round Management Program (12 Month) in years to come as participation continues to grow.

Although the weather may cool down, not all your problems go away. November through February can be a very difficult time of year for your stormwater control structure. Large

fall/winter rain events along with continual freeze-thaw cycles often keep large amounts of stormwater moving intermittently throughout the winter season, increasing the potential for issues. There remains a need to inspect for erosion and shoreline integrity. It is also important to ensure inlet and outlet structures are free of obstruction and functioning properly; this includes the removal litter and debris. Depending on your circumstances, assessment of the diffused bottom aeration system can also be important during this time of the year.

We are also offering regulatory inspection reports, which is not included with the winter program but can be provided as an additional service. Many municipalities and local governments are starting to require these reports on an annual basis, as a record of your structures' continued maintenance. Stormwater can look good and should look good; consider a winter program to keep our eyes on your water year-round.

Countless Satisfied Fountain Customers

Carter Bailey, Aquatic Biologist, AQUA DOC Inc.



The transformative nature of a floating fountain is truly unique. Walking out your backdoor or coming up your driveway, you feel a cool mist in the air, hear the sound of splashing water, and see a powerful column of water rising into the sky only to come crashing back to the water's surface. Does this remind you of an enjoyable moment on your lake or pond? Quite often, we find that fountains can create a very special space for our customers, where people can gather, enjoy, relax, and have fun. From people's homes, to common areas in their community, places of work, parks, and even cemeteries - the common thread is the same, you are adding another element to the landscape to help pull everything together.

At AQUA DOC, we have been providing fountain and aeration services for over 40 years, where we have become an industry leader in sales, installation, and maintenance. We estimate tens of thousands satisfied fountain customers, and the numbers continue to grow every year. We carry many

lines and styles of fountains, and we are an authorized dealer of many well-recognized names in the industry including AquaMaster, AirMax, Kasco Marine, Vertex, Otterbine, Outdoor Water Solutions, and Aqua Control. Trying to pick the right fountain, at the right price point, that matches the aesthetics of your lake or pond can often be frustrating. In this article, we would like to explore some important questions that need to be answered for us to make the best recommendation for your lake or pond.

Power Availability

All floating fountains work off the same basic principle, using an electric motor to launch a decorative spray pattern of water up into the air as efficiently as possible. Onsite, we will need to know if there is power available near the pond. It is also important to remember that smaller fountains typically run on 120-Volt power, and larger fountains run on 240-Volt power. There are also solar options available if the nearest power location is simply too far away.

(continued on page 4)



Five Benefits of Maintaining a Natural Shoreline

Anthony Casey, Aquatic Specialist, AQUA DOC Inc.

If you are familiar with the outdoors, you will know that emergent wetland vegetation tends to grow in and around the transition area near the water's edge creating a vegetated shoreline. As a lake or pond owner your first thoughts might be that this growth seems out of place, unsightly, or unmanageable, and that you may want to remove it or just plant turf grass right up the water's edge. Of course, there are times when the control of emergent plants around a body of water is useful and necessary (such as excessive cattail or phragmites growth), but as we look a little closer you will find that the vast majority of these shoreline aquatic plants are beneficial and provide important services to your lake or pond. Let's investigate the five major benefits of maintaining a natural shoreline.

1. Nutrient Reduction

Keeping areas of your shoreline natural allows plants and their root systems to capture pollutants and potential nuisance-causing nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen from entering your body of water. Even leaving just a patch of vegetation near your inflow or sections around the shoreline will act as a buffer, providing one last level of protection for lake or pond, helping to improve water quality.

2. Shoreline Stabilization

The banks of a water body are made up of soils that can be prone to erosion over time. This is commonly caused by fluctuating water levels that occur after a rain event. Root systems of native wetland plants help to hold sediment in place and create a naturally stabilized shoreline on your body of water. The roots of wetland plants are typically much deeper than traditional turf grasses. This will ultimately lead to improved water clarity as less suspended sediment, resulting in less murkiness and higher visibility.

3. Improved Habitat and Species Richness

Long expanses of diverse plant coverage can serve as rich habitat zones for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. Often times, birds will nest in tall fibrous plant structures along the shoreline. Fish enjoy the protection provided by emergent aquatic plants, like arrowhead and pickerelweed so that they can avoid

predators and safely spawn. Most emergent aquatic plants also have flowering cycles, serving as important pollination sites for birds and insects. It is recommended to maintain this growth around the perimeter of your lake or pond to foster a healthy aquatic ecosystem.

4. Aesthetic Value

Flowering plants along shore can really add some beauty to your water body. A mixture of wetland plant species growing alongside each other can provide seasonal color to enhance an otherwise drab shoreline. The natural vegetation already primed to grow around your water body can deliver a pleasant surprise in improving aesthetic value, giving your lake or pond a sanctuary-like feel.

5. Cost Effectiveness

There can be considerable economic concerns when it comes to shoreline stabilization. Continued shoreline erosion can lead to several issues, including shoreline scouring, uneven terrain, loss of land, increased sedimentation, pond leaks, and even dam deterioration. The cost to rectify these issues if left unchecked may become overwhelming if the burden is yours to bear.

In some cases, we may want to control emergent plant growth. This includes opening access areas for recreation, controlling invasive plant species, and/or preventing the formation of a monoculture (one plant dominating the entire area), but in general we like to see a well-established, balanced emergent plant community. If you are concerned about the shoreline plant growth around your body of water, you may always schedule a free onsite consultation with one of our specialists for a professional assessment and advice for how to proceed.



Countless Satisfied Fountain Customers *(continued from page 2)*

Fountain Location

The fountain location within the pond can also make a difference. Almost all floating fountains have an onshore control panel. The distance between the fountain and the control panel will determine the amount of electrical cable and size (gauge) of cable needed to run the fountain properly. Both fountain sizing and pricing are closely linked to the amount of cable needed to connect the control panel to the fountain.

Spray Pattern

Try to establish a general idea of what you would like your fountain to look like. We are here to help make your vision a reality, but it is always helpful to have a good starting point. Most manufacturers have a variety of different sizes and spray patterns, once you give us some basic ideas of what you are looking for, we can bring your vision to life.

Lighting Packages

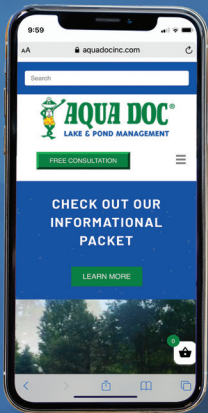
Lighting often adds an exciting element to your fountain, and some cases, it is almost a necessity. For example, if you are at work all day and want to fully enjoy your fountain when you are home in the evenings, then you will want to strongly consider purchasing a fountain with a light kit. In

recent years, there have been a number of exciting lighting packages that have come to market, including bright white LED lights, and RGBW color changing LED lights. Higher-end lighting packages are even capable of performing a variety of different light shows and displays.

Budget

Generally, we can do exciting things within almost any budget. As our manufacturers continue to innovate, they have been able to bring many good features, such as enhanced spray patterns, digital timers, and LED lighting options at competitive price points. By establishing a budget, we can work with you to meet your needs. Some of these considerations include upfront costs, operating costs, and long-term maintenance expectations.

Certainly, the optics of a floating fountain has the ability to impress. We can create the gem of your home property, community, or place of business and that is our goal. Let us make it easy for you, we are the experts in fountain and aeration technology, and not all fountains are not created equal. Consider working with one of our specialists to create a custom proposal for you.



Learn more

about lakes and ponds
on our website!

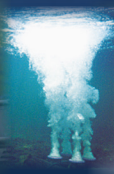
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Lake Studies



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Dock Installation



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