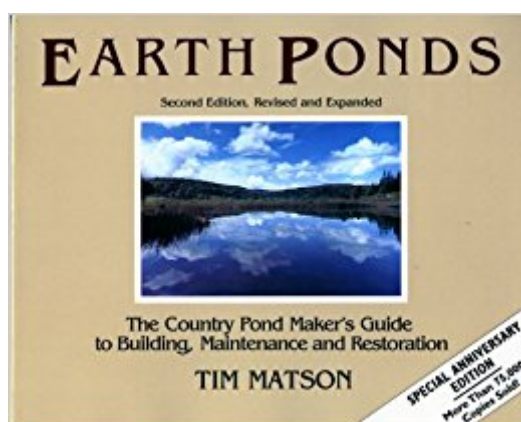


The book was found

Earth Ponds: The Country Pond Maker's Guide To Building, Maintenance And Restoration (Second Edition)



Synopsis

There is nothing like a pond! What else can simultaneously increase your aesthetic pleasure, offer recreational opportunities, help the environment, and increase the value of your land? This is the recognized standard on ponds, now expanded to include a comprehensive guide to living happily with your completed pond and keeping it perpetually healthy. Here is everything you need to know about planning, digging, sculpting, and maintaining your pond.

Book Information

Paperback: 152 pages

Publisher: Countryman Press; 2 edition (August 17, 1982)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881501557

ISBN-13: 978-0881501551

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,148,403 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Water Gardens & Ponds #146 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Lakes & Ponds #262 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Environmental > Waste Management

Customer Reviews

Tim Matson, a writer and aquaculture consultant, has been advising people how to build and maintain ponds and wetlands for more than 25 years through Earth Ponds, his pond design and restoration consulting firm. His writing has appeared in Yankee, Harrowsmith Country Life, Country Journal, and Vermont Life. He lives in Thetford Center, Vermont.

This book rambles on and on Ralph Waldo Emerson style. If you like Walt Whitman and a dash of old school sexism (nothing particularly offensive, just funny from a modern perspective), then you will enjoy this. The book is mostly anecdotes, with a few examples of him building a pond and what went right and wrong and his take on why. I would not call this a guide by any means, and the good ol boy system of finding someone to build your pond, much less permits (?) is probably not extremely relevant. I would've given this more stars for just being what it is, but he called it a GUIDE. It is a memoir.

This book is a fun read and is full of important advice on building and maintaining a small pond. It is a little old and needs some updating as it was, for instance, written before PVC piping was widely used. And, there are pictures in the book but no captions explaining them and they don't always relate to the subject matter being read.

Get this book BEFORE buying property with a pond or before building one. This lets you see what you are in for as far as expense and maintenance. A pond is a 'do or die' 'love it or leave' it endeavor. A couple of bucks will save you a lifetime of tears. LOL

Unfortunately times have changed and there are many regulations and considerations that are not taken into account in this dated book.

This book is a good start to building your own pond. I would suggest it as a inexpensive first step to pond building. What I learned in my experience was there is just too much to consider when you want a high quality pond. I used a professional biologist to design my pond and got terrific results. I was happy I knew the basics from this book so I could speak somewhat intelligently with the fishery biologist. After investing tens of thousands of dollars, I learned that the small amount I spent on this book and the professional advice was well worth it. I was so happy I got a nice clear fishing and swimming pond instead of a muddy mess or one that was weed infested.

This is a lovely, dreamy little book with some great black and white photos. It's perfect reading for a winter's night or for fostering fantasies. It's also a pretty good place to start before you call the county agent or start knocking on the doors of pond-owning neighbors. It's perfectly true that some of Matson's writing is way over the top ("I wake up from a nightmare of valkyries swooping down out of the sun") and the illustrations are not enough to talk you through the whole process, but this could be the book that gets you started and that's worth quite a bit.

I bought this book for my husband, who has been planning the restoration for our 4+ acre pond. Many books on ponds seem to be focused on smaller water gardens, not on sizeable wetlands. This is the first truly helpful resource book that he's found. The author writes from the perspective of a conservationist, but his passion for what he's doing comes across as poetic. Extremely helpful guide for facts, resources, and the issues/challenges you're likely to encounter, as well as key

environmental considerations.

This book applies to northern ponds more than southern ponds. We do not ice over nor do we put trout in our ponds because of the warm waters. It is a good book for what it applies to.

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