

Why My Dad Would Get A Fish Doctor's Advice Why My Dad Should Get an Aquascape Pond and Not a "Proper Koi Pond"



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Why My Dad Would Geo-Arr Aquariumscape People If It Was Up To Me

A Gentle Comparison

- Biggest **Differences**
- **Parallels**
- Exclusive **Benefits**



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Biggest Differences Daily Versus Annual Maintenance.



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Biggest Differences

Ecosystem Pond Failure is Limited to The **Pump**.

Proper Koi Ponds have **SIX** Achilles Heels.



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Proper Koi Ponds “Achilles Heels”:

**Aerator – Pump – UV – Bottom
Drain – External Filter**

A failure of any of the above parts can
kill the fish or drain the pond

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**"I'm going
to kill
whoever
designed
this
filter."**

Biggest Differences

Ecosystem-Pond Fish Live When A System Component Fails.



Biggest Differences

Ecosystem Ponds Don't Need Daily Checking, or a User's Manual, When You Go Out of Town.



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Biggest Differences

Ecosystem Ponds Use Gravel as The Filter. Proper Koi Ponds Have Elaborate External Filtration.

Biggest Differences

Ecosystem Ponds have nitrate control. Proper Koi Ponds do NOT and require water changes.



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Biggest Differences

Proper Koi Ponds are un-necessarily deep. Ecosystem ponds are as deep as they need to be, based on owner expectations.

Biggest Differences

Proper Koi Ponds are bottom-drained. Ecosystem ponds don't need a bottom drain to work.



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Parallels

ALL Filtration Systems
Keep **Poop** in The Water Column

Parallels

ALL Filtration Systems Must Cope
With Algae / Green Water



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Parallels

**ALL Filtration Systems Fail
If They Are Abused / Neglected**



Parallels

**All Koi Ponds may have
Alkalinity issues or require
activated carbon.**



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Benefits: Aquascape Pond

- Once a Year Maintenance
- Natural Background for Fish
- Natural Forage
- Less “Stuff” to Go Wrong
- Total System Failure Doesn't Kill All Your Fish.



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Benefits: Aquascape Pond

- Simple Upkeep
- Spawning Success & Survival
- Minimal chemical cost
- Less “Stuff” to Go Wrong



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Benefits: Aquascape Pond

- Can Look Completely Natural
- Filter Has No “Footprint”
- Can Host Birds & Amphibians
- Extremely Low System Failure Rate



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Aquascape Ponds

Can Look Any
Way You Want.
Gravel, Filter on
Waterfall,
Architectural
Design.



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Benefits: Aquascape Pond

- Quiet Filtration
- Does Not ***Require*** Anything To Be Successful Other Than a Pump.



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BUT: Aquascape Pond

- Dad Would NOT Have One Without A Blower on a Separate Circuit.
- Dad Would Have Constant Water Replacement. (Trickle System)



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Notes: Aquascape Pond

There *are* “System Crutches”
to Address **Impatience, Overfeeding,**
Underfoliage, Lack of Water
Changes, Deficient Alkalinity,
Skipped Cleanouts.



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Drawbacks: Aquascape Pond

- Spring **Greenwater** Sometimes
- Labor Intensive Cleanout
- **Expensive** Cleanout
- **Poor Installations Damage The Whole Genre**



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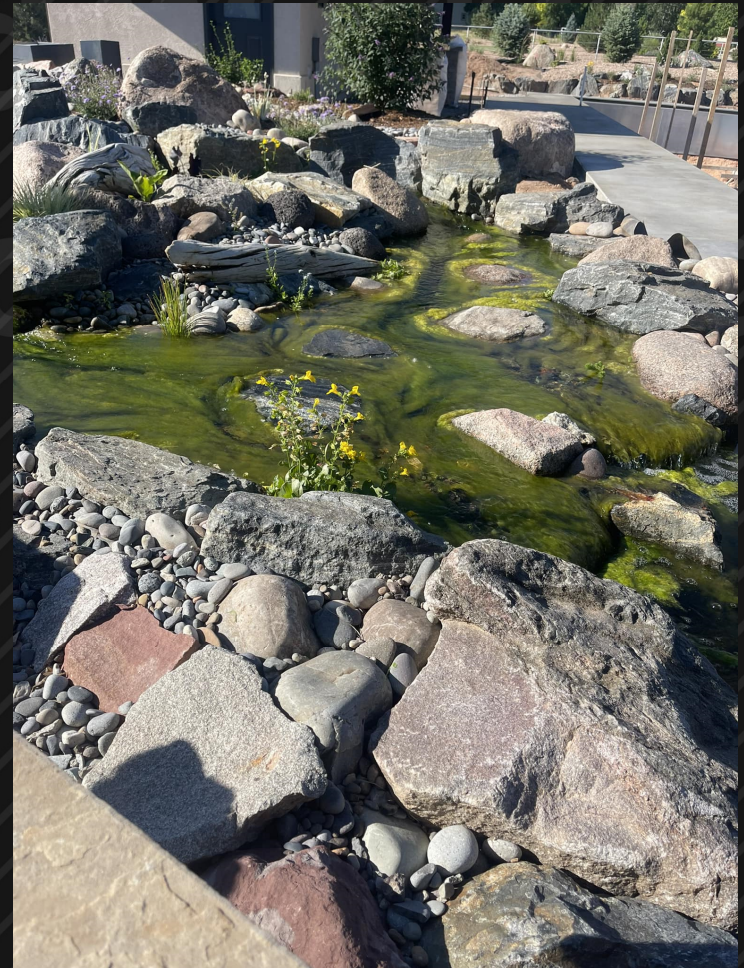
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Drawbacks: Aquascape Pond

- String Algae in Waterfall
- Inaccessible to Plecostomus
- This would be a problem in a “proper” koi pond *if it had a waterfall too.*



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Benefits: Proper Koi Pond

- **Easy, “Valve-Turn Maintenance”**
- **Black Background for Fish**
- **Zero Springtime Green Water**
- **No “Teardown” Cleanout**
- **(No Fish Handling)**
- **Hérons Can’t Wade In.**

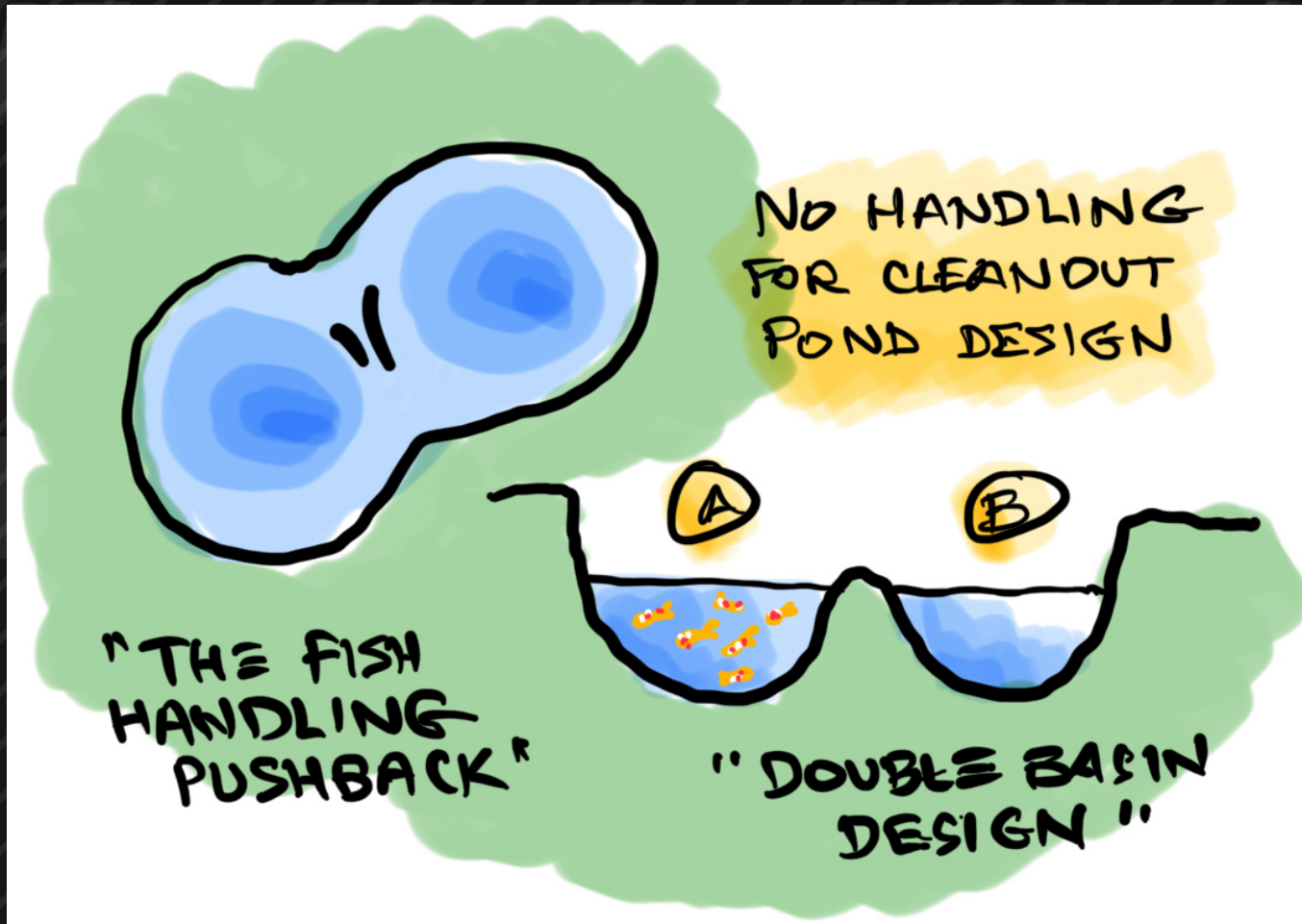


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Defects: Proper Koi Pond

- No Natural Forage
- No Mixoflagellates
- No Viruses
- No Plant Agglutinins
- Nitrate Immune Suppression



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Defects: Proper Koi Pond

- Koi Boredom
- **Less** Breeding Inclination
- **& Success**
- Much More **Expensive**
- **Much** Less Natural Looking



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Why My Dad Would Get All The Good Advice If It Was Up To Me

Do you know all the “Proper Koi Pond Filters?”



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FILTRATION PROS + CONS

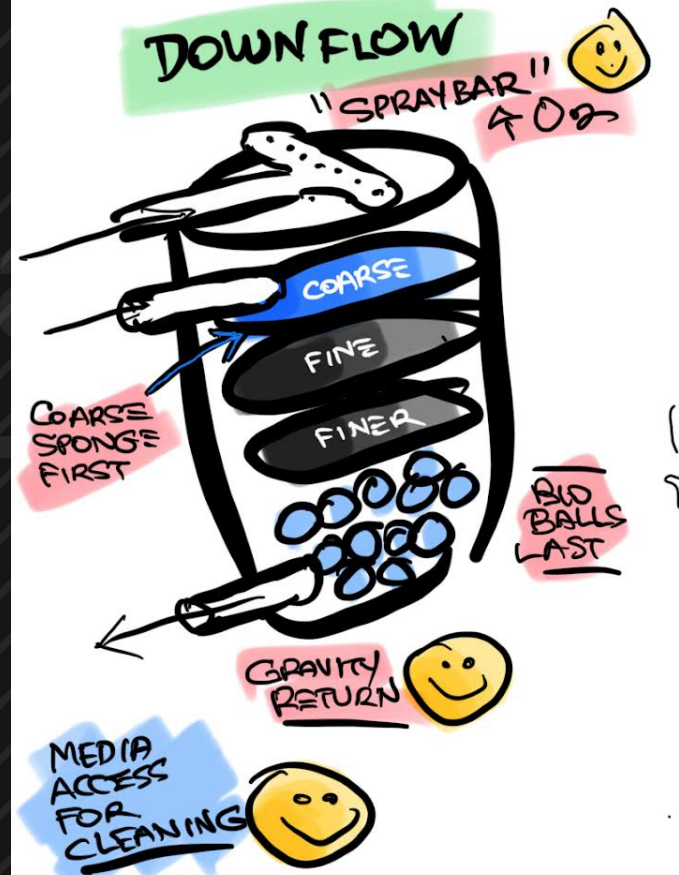
Upflow
downflow
Bakki
Nexus
Vortex
Bead 1 + 2
Bead II (aquadyne)
"BRUSHES"
Sponge filters

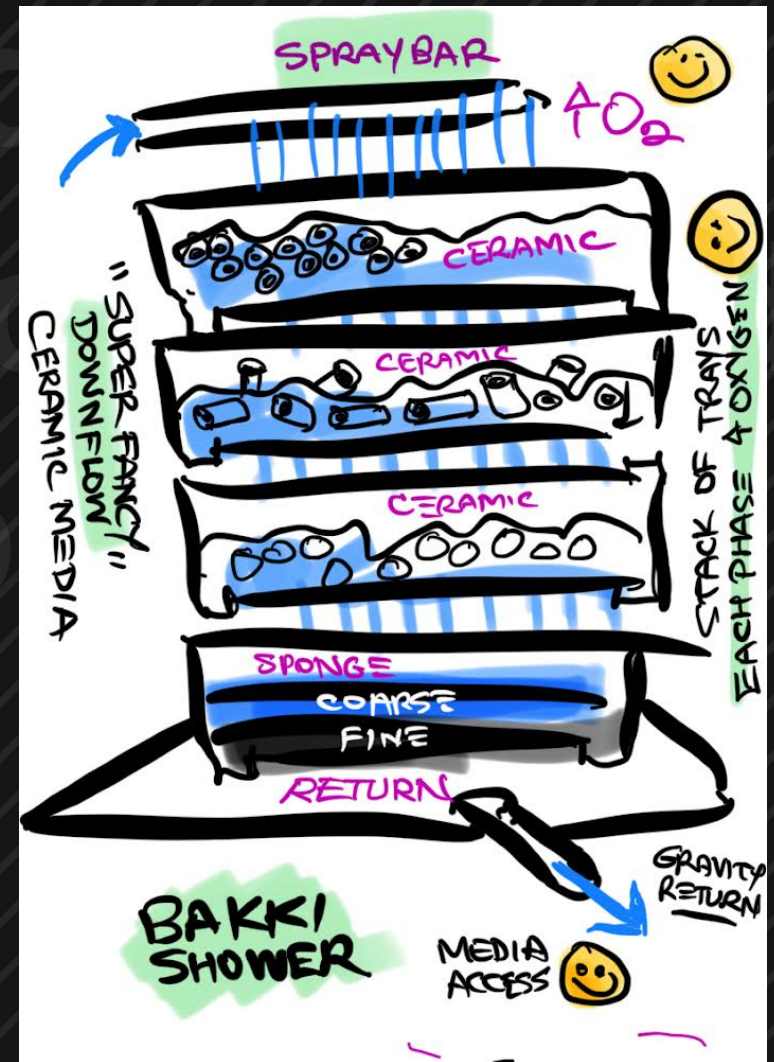
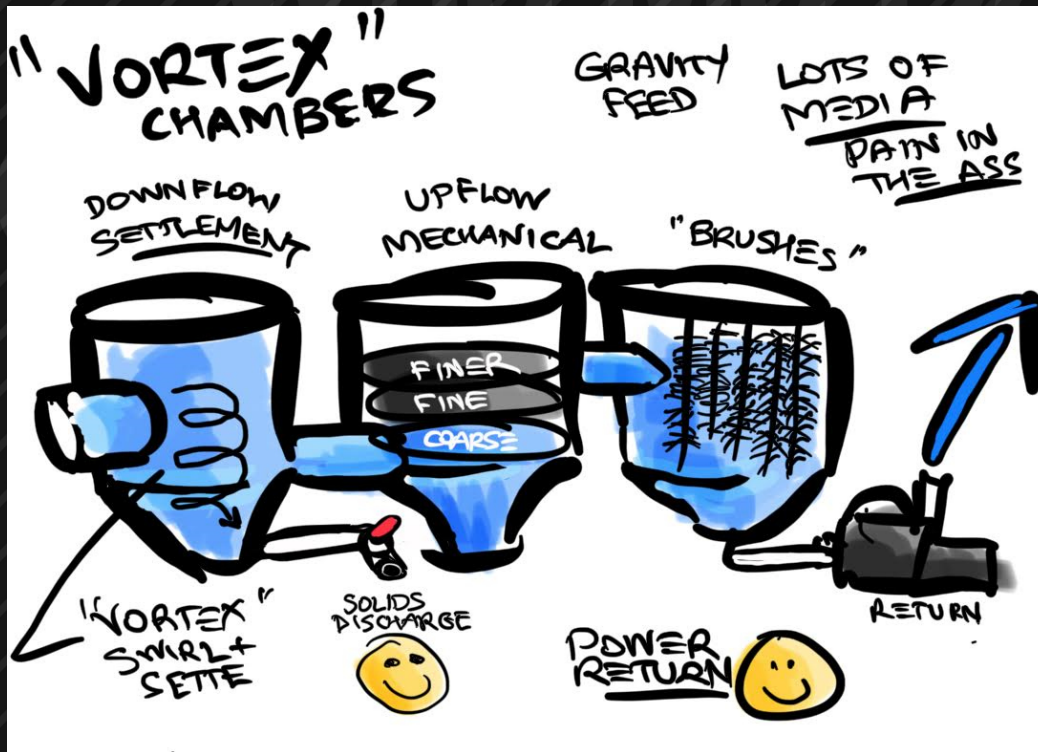
UPFLOW



GRAVITY RETURN
"COARSE TO FINE"
BIOBALLS TO COARSE
SPONGE TO FINE
SPONGE

DOWNFLOW





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INNER CHAMBER WITH EAZY
(Mechanical Stage)

EXIT CHAMBER
(Fitted with overflow / by-pass pipe running through exit grill plate)

OUTLET

WASTE VALVE
(Large 1½")



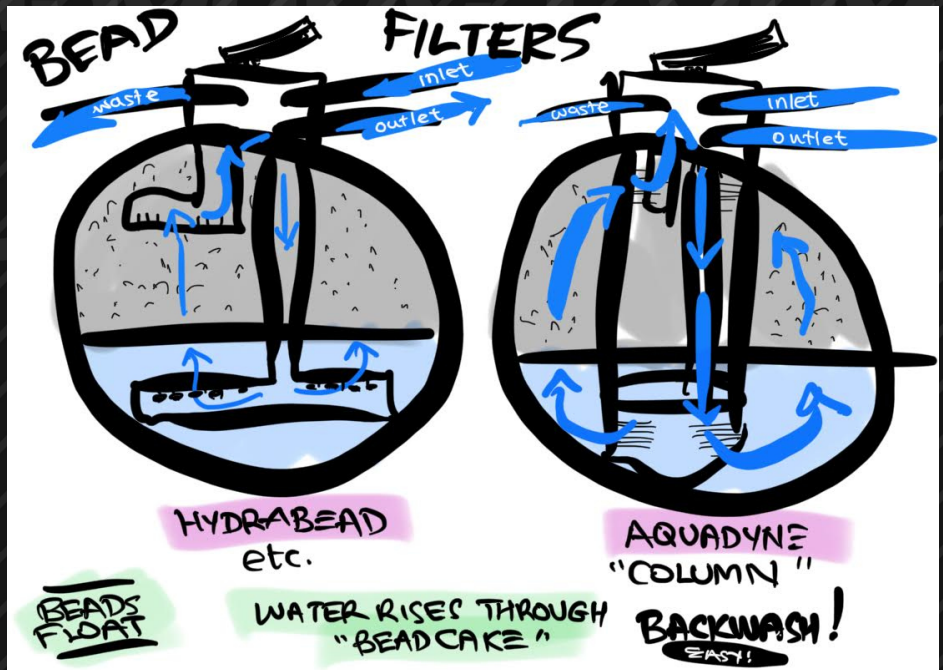
OUTER CHAMBER
(Biological Stage with K+ Media)

AIRLINE & VALVES
(12mm airline & air valves)

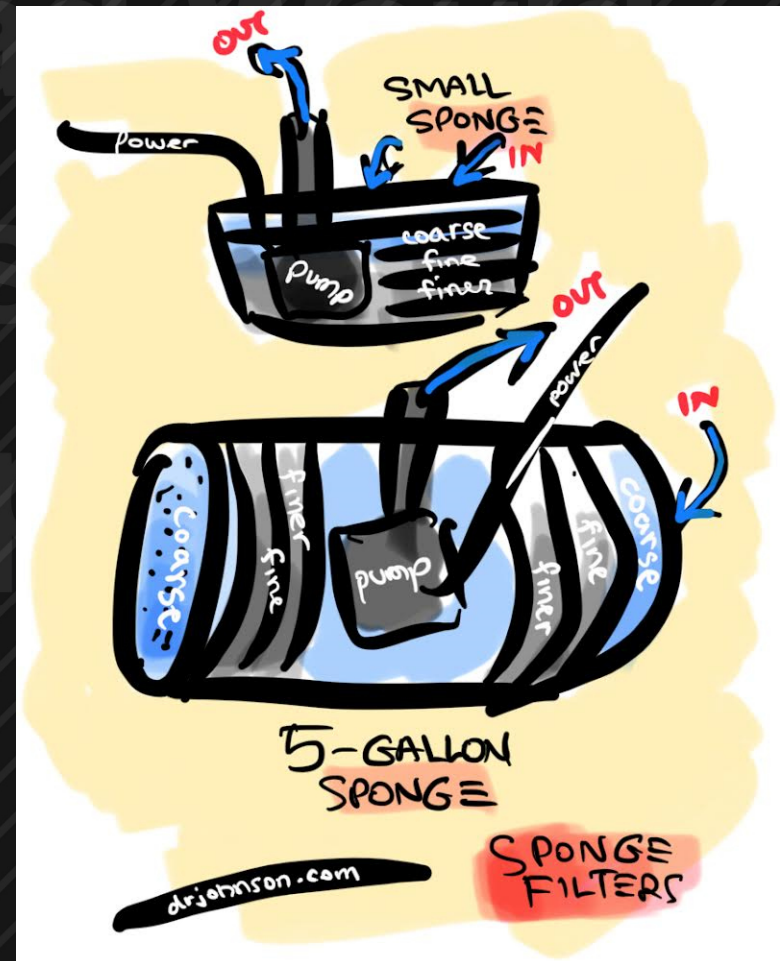
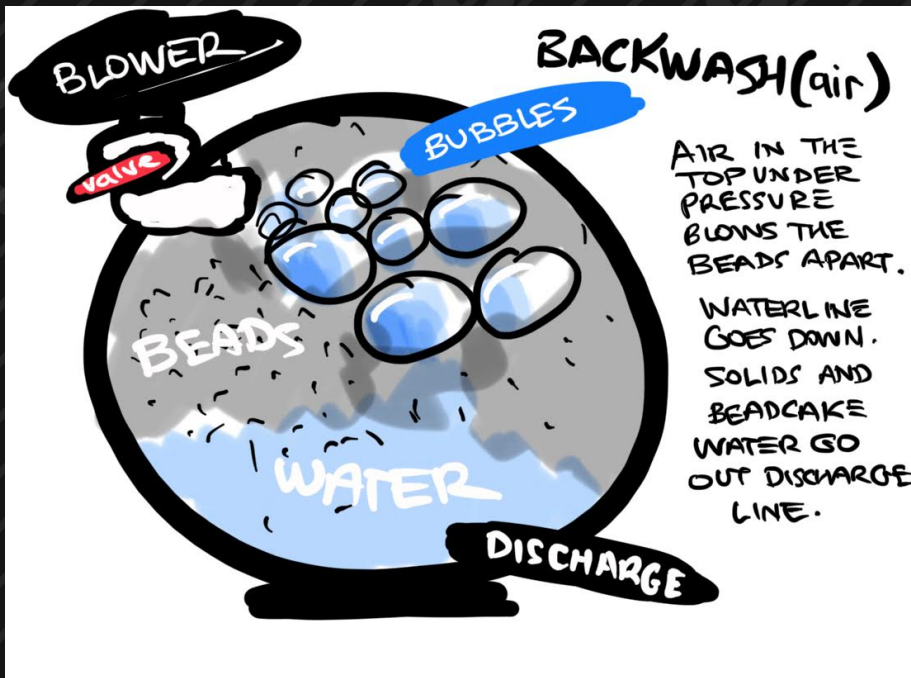
WASTE OUTLET & SETTLEMENT AREA

INLET

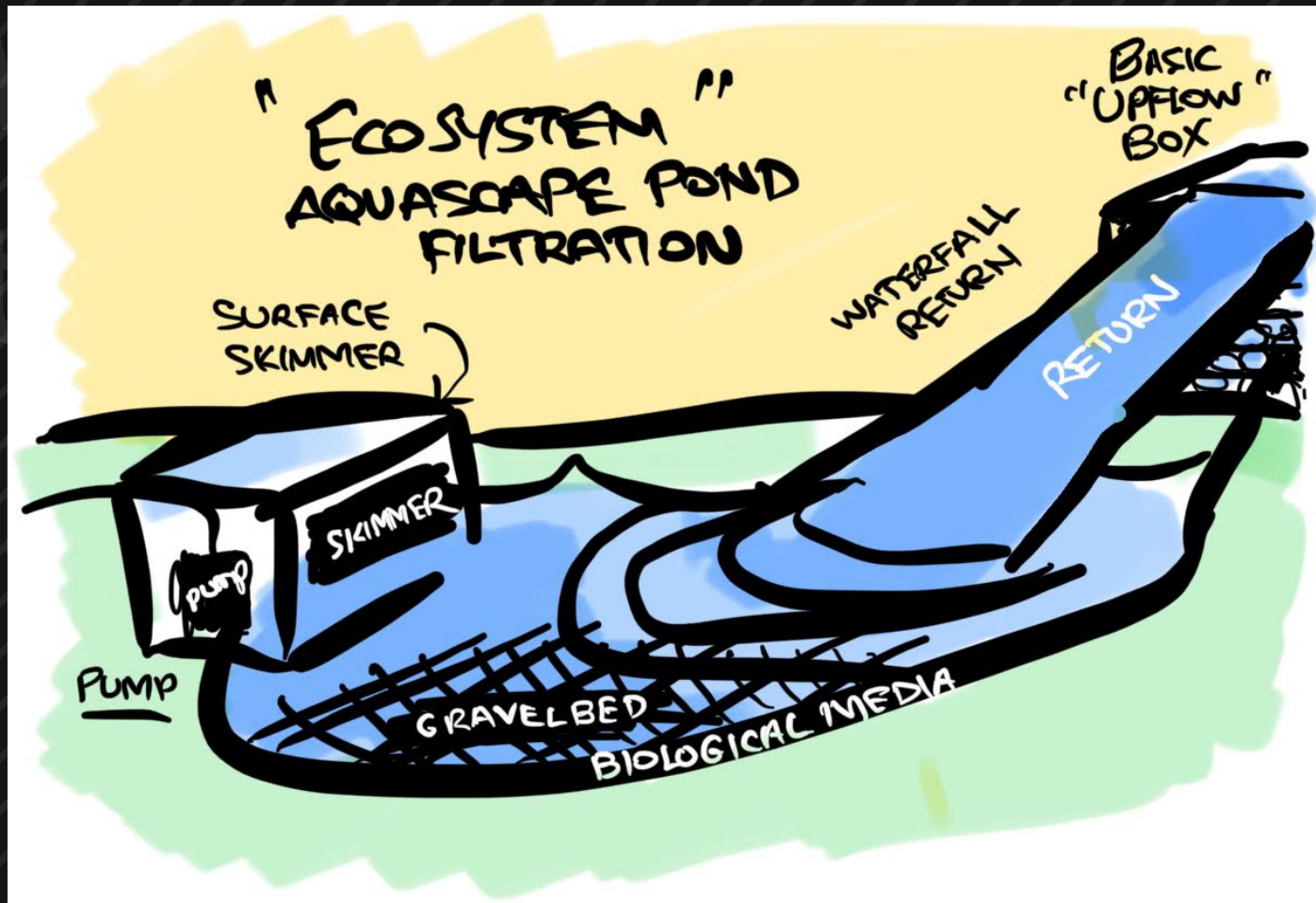
OUTER CHAMBER MAINTENANCE VALVE
(¾")



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Equivalents?

Green Water: Choose UV ...**Or** Plants

Bacteria: Choose UV ...**Or** Mixoflagellates,
Ambiphrya, Bacteriophages

Water Clarity: Choose Chemicals & UV ...**OR**
Plant Agglutinins, Ambiphrya, Filter feeders,
Bacteriophages

SERVICE OR CONDITION	Aquascape Pond	Proper Koi Pond
Green Water	Time and Live Plants	Ultraviolet Sterilizer & / or Chemicals
Bacterial Overgrowth In Water	Biofilm in Gravel, Mixoflagellates, Bacteriophages, Plant Agglutinins	Ultraviolet Sterilizer & / or Chemicals
Nitrate Accumulation	Plants, Algae	Water Changes
Ammonia/Nitrite Reduction	Gravelbed, biofilm.	Filter Media
Solids Trapping	Gravelbed, Filter Media	Filter Media
Aeration	The Water Fall	An Aerator
Filter Cleaning	Annually	Daily to Monthly
PH Alkalinity Stablization	Rocks and Gravel	Chemicals or Oyster Shell
Brown Stained Water	Carbon & Water Changes	Carbon & Water Changes
Hazy Water	Plant Agglutinins, Filter Feeders, Biofilm, Algaebeds	Final phase polishing Filter with ultra fine media like DE or similar.

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CONSIDERATIONS	AQUASCAPE GRAVEL POND	"PROPER" KOI POND
Needs deep cleaning once a year.	YES	NO
Needs attention daily	NO	YES
Natural Food Grows In Pond	YES	NO
Has Live Plants & Nitrate Control	YES	NO
UV Is Usually Required	NO	YES
Has Bacteriophages Mixoflagellates	YES	NO
Needs a Bottom Drain	NO	YES
Filtration is \$\$ and Complicated	NO	YES
Cleanout Is Expensive	YES	n/a
Filter is Quiet With No Footprint	YES	NO
Koi Can Grow HUGE	YES	YES
Koi Can Be VERY Healthy	YES	YES
Has Good Looking Waterfall	YES	NO
Has Gravel on the Bottom	YES	NO

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INDOOR POND W/ NEW Viewing Window for Prize Koi



Aquascape ponds aren't the same as they used to be. Designers are stepping up their game, and their tech. Ponds built with gravel, upflow solids removal and waterfall returns have been making people happy for decades. They work well, and are easy peasy **364 Days a year.**

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Why My Dad Would

Get All Aquascape Problems

If It Was Up To Me

Thank you
for your kind
attention!



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