

## Dear BioNova Partners & Customers,

BioNova Natural Swimming Pools are built by our international Partners all over the world. We have presented many BioNova projects worldwide in the last months. In this newsletter we want to present for the first time a BioNova project from Poland, the NSP at Hotel Kocierz. We would also like to introduce Garda Bio-Pools, a BioNova family member from Italy.

As the gardening season begins we want to inform you about what work is needed to maintain your Natural Swimming Pool. In this month's newsletter you can learn more about our innovative Pool building method and its advantages. We'll also feature an historical BioNova project in this newsletter. This month we'll show you a BioNova NSP built in 1998 near Munich, Germany. Enjoy reading!

Your BioNova Global Head Office Team

Rainer Grafinger, Christine Schoeck, Andrea Enseleit, Stephanie & Jusuf Rifatov

## Project of the month



After seeing these pictures you might be ready to pack your bags and spend a little holiday at the beautiful Hotel Kocierz in Poland! Located in the picturesque scenery of the Landscape Park of the Beskid Maly, this BioNova Project of the Month proves that a biologically filtered hotel swimming pool doesn't have to be boring and colourless at all - quite the contrary! The Natural Swimming Pool at the Kocierz Conference and Recreation Centre is very popular among the hotel guests, especially the younger guests who enjoy having fun at the two water slides!

The 442 square meter NSP is a perfect addition to the existing spa and wellness program of the hotel. The water is treated in a 100% biological way in the two regeneration zones. These regeneration zones, each sized 200 square meters, are separated structurally from the swimming area so that the swimming area remains unplanted.

## The BioNova Family



BioNova also has many beautiful projects in Italy. Since October 2010 the BioNova Family has had an official partner in the sunny Mediterranean country: Garda Bio-Pools (Gino Pondavini, Manager) specializes in planning, building, and maintenance of private and public gardens.

Garda Bio-Pools is a dynamic and flexible company that grows continually. A team of highly qualified designers and gardeners works hard to create unforgettable gardens

for its customers. Furthermore, Garda Bio-Pools is an official partner of the company SpaGarden. The mission statement of both firms is based on the idea of harnessing the positive energies of Mother Nature and combining it with modern design. Above all, the gardens built by these firms are places of harmony, tranquillity, and regeneration.

Garda Bio-Pools focuses on the client's wishes. The designers carefully choose the perfect position for each of the gardening elements and combine a Natural Swimming Pool, plants, and trees with other decorative landscape elements like statues, wells, or children's playgrounds. In this way, they are always creating unique and beautiful gardens. The materials used are primarily natural stones and local woods.

It's surely worth a visit to their homepage [www.gardabiopools.com](http://www.gardabiopools.com). If you have further questions please don't hesitate to email Garda-Biopools at [info@gardabiopools.com](mailto:info@gardabiopools.com).

## Dates 2012

Training events, fairs, meetings – we've got a lot going on with the BioNova Family!  
Review the following to see where the next activities of the BioNova Global Head Office and the BioNova Partners will take place:

### May

#### Day of Open Doors

May 05-06, 2012, Wickrange (Luxembourg)

BioNova Partner René Weisen invites all interested people to come to the „Day of Open Doors“ at his company. For more information please visit: [www.plantations.lu](http://www.plantations.lu) or contact the company by email: [weisenre@pt.lu](mailto:weisenre@pt.lu)

#### BioNova Natural Pools OneDaySeminar

May 8, 2012, Newark New Jersey USA

Learn about BioNova Natural Pools from James Robyn, CEO of BioNova Natural Pools for North America. Topics will include NSP design and constructions, water chemistry and algae control, microbiology standards, and maintenance. This Seminar is approved for 6 Credit Hours by the ASLA Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System. Refer to <http://www.bionovanaturalpools.com/upcoming-onedayseminars.html> for details.

#### Gartenfest Wilhelmsthal

May 17 - 20, 2012, Kassel-Calden (Germany)

BioNova Partner Niklas Sobotta will present BioNova NSPs at this exhibition - stop by, it's worth it!

#### Action Weekend

May, 18 - 20, 2012, Information Center Gardening & Landscaping Show Bamberg (Germany)

At this weekend in May, BioNova Partner Rainer Bewersdorff puts a very interesting question up for discussion at the Information Center of the Gardening & Landscaping Show Bamberg: NSP or Swimming Pool? Anyone who wants to hear about the several advantages and disadvantages should not miss to visit this event!

### June

#### BioNova Summer Meeting

June 24 - 26, 2012, Hotel Holiday, Thun (Switzerland)

This summer all of the BioNova partners will meet again to visit BioNova NSPs and communicate with each other. After visiting several projects in Germany last year, the partners will meet in Switzerland this year. The partners will visit different BioNova NSPs around Thun and Lake Thun.

#### Gardening & Landscaping Show Bamberg

April 26 - October 7, 2012, Bamberg (Germany)

BioNova Partner Rainer Bewersdorff designed a special theme garden where he presents BioNova Natural Pools at the communal gardening show at Bamberg. This will give all visitors a better understanding of Natural Swimming Pools and will show them the advantages of NSPs. To find more information please visit: [www.lgs-bamberg.de](http://www.lgs-bamberg.de)

## BioNova Pool Building Method



With the newly developed and innovative Pool Building Method, BioNova has its finger directly on the pulse of cutting edge pool design. This method is an advancement of the Two-Pot Building Method and guarantees maximal design freedom.

All of the aquatic plants are located in the regeneration zone which is completely separated from the swimming area. The swimming area is built with formal, perpendicular walls. Therefore a biologically filtered Natural Swimming Pool reminds one of a traditional, chlorinated swimming pool.



The BioNova Natural Swimming Pool is a combination of classical pool design and BioNova Technology. Usually the basin is built with brick and then sealed with liner, but it is also possible to coat it with tiles or natural stone. Those who prefer fashionable designs can also choose a stainless steel basin.

The swimming basin can also be built out of a special concrete. The concrete must be sealed with an additional coating.

## BioNova Pool Building Method



BioNova recommends that its customers deploy a robotic pool cleaner at least once a week. In addition, optimal suction of the water surface is very important for this NSP design because the sedimentation should be reduced as much as possible. For this reason, NSP builders typically install several overflow gutters at the perimeter of the BioNova Natural Swimming Pool.



The overflow gutters can be made out of stainless steel, concrete or acryl. The pool water flows over the edge into the fine filter compact unit and from there to a distribution shaft at the regeneration zone. The water is cleaned up by the aquatic plants and the zoo- and phytoplankton. It is then pumped back into the swimming area. The design of the external planted biological filter where the water is cleaned up can be adapted and customized to the client's wishes and the local conditions. This regeneration zone can be designed like a natural ornamental pond or can be placed at an angular or round concrete basin. It's also possible to cover it partially with a terrace or even with turf if needed. One additional advance of this building method is that it doesn't matter how much distance lies between the regeneration zone and the swimming area. The regeneration zone can be located anywhere on the building site.

## Maintenance of NSPs in Spring



Just like your house gets a thorough spring cleaning, your BioNova NSP or should be cleaned up every spring. The following section provides some advice for NSP spring cleaning.

As soon as it gets warm enough you should cut off all of the old stems. This work should be finished before the plants begin to sprout again in spring. At the same time you can control the pond bank and also clean up the gravel surface. Sometimes the gravel slips off the liner - this can't be avoided. It may be necessary to cover any exposed liner with gravel again. Leaves or sediments on the bottom of the pool should be

removed with the help of a special cleaning machine - but please: Never drain too much water out of the NSP! The BioNova NSP expert in your vicinity will help you with special machines and maintenance advice if needed.

All of this maintenance should be completed no later than the middle of May. Please keep in mind that your local BioNova expert may have to visit you twice to finish this work. Only the coarse sediment will be removed by cleaning machines. Some fine sediment may still remain. The water may be cloudy at the beginning of the spring season. That's nothing to worry about. The cloudy water only lasts until the microbiology is working properly. Often the water becomes clear overnight. It may also help to add some microorganisms or a specially developed fertilizer. Please also remember to replace the adsorption substrate which is installed around the BioNova fine filter (green, oblong bags). This ion exchanger should be replaced every 1 or 2 seasons. The used materials can be reused as fertilizer for the bushes or shrubs in your garden.

After finishing this work (cutting back the aquatic plants, cleaning the bottom of the NSP) please activate the pumps to remove the fine particles (dust, leaves, etc.) from the water surface. At the same time, activate the gravel filter. The water should circulate at a minimum of 6 hours per day until the beginning of the bathing season (for example: 24 x 15 min. pump on).

Now your NSP is ready for the 2012 bathing season. We hope you will enjoy lots of precious moments at your BioNova Natural Swimming Pool!

## BioNova Historical



In 1998, the BioNova Partner Company Sechser built a Natural Swimming Pool for a private garden in Strasslach, Germany (near Munich).

The NSP built in Strasslach is a One-Pot Design and is about 120 square meters and 2 meters deep.

The so called „Schafferl“ - the ancestor of the overflow gutter - was installed at the prevailing wind direction and hidden under the terrace. A small bridge which connects the terrace to the rest of the garden hides the BioNova fine filter and the circulation pump.

outside the NSP, the water can be refreshed during the bathing season. This means that it was possible to drain nutrient-rich water from the deepest point of the NSP and replace it with fresh water. It's also possible to remove sediments from the bottom of the NSP this way.

A floor drain was installed at the deepest point of the NSP. By opening the slider

There are 20 beautiful decorative well stones which were chosen especially for this NSP. They are made out of white marble.