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Dear BioNova Partners & Customers,

the summer gets into top gear and presents high temperatures in most regions of the world. Because of this, the BioNova Partners are very busy helping their clients to enjoy the summer at their own NSPs. The first NSP in Serbia, which we are following as the Project of the Month in July, was actually finished on time. Also the member of the BioNova Family, which we'll introduce to you in detail this month, could finish several projects despite being still a fairly new member. In June, we started to inform those who yet flirt with having a NSP about sealing with a liner. We want to continue to inform you this month about different sealing methods. And as usual we cast a glance on an older BioNova Project. This month we feature the public biological pool of Corvara in North Italy.

Also, if you missed one of our Newsletters please contact info@bionova.de. The BioNova team will be pleased to send you each of our Newsletters for free and without any engagement.

Enjoy reading!

Your BioNova Global Head Office Team

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

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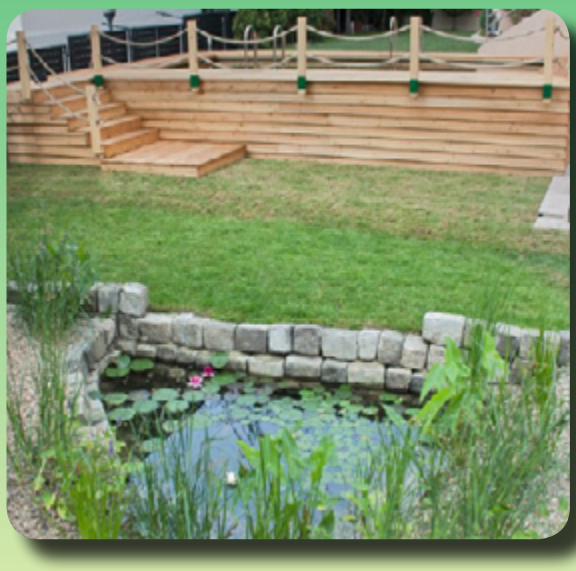
Objekt des Monats

This month, we want to present a BioNova NSP located at a private garden in Belgrade (Serbia); the first BioNova project located there.

The NSP was built by the BioNova Partner Company Hidronova Plus which is also located in Belgrade.

Company manager Sasa Matovic came up with some smart design ideas for this project, for example, locating the swimming area and the regeneration area each on separate garden levels.

While the swimming basin is located at one height along with the living area of the house, the regeneration area is placed on a level below. By doing this, the surface irregularities were masked and the existing space was practiced at once. The NSP features a wooden panel and a wooden stair which links the two garden levels.



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The BioNova Family

The BioNova Partner we want to introduce you this month is located at Bavaria. The gardening and landscaping company Gschwend was founded in 1988 by the senior Alban Gschwend. Today, the junior Armin Gschwend has adopted the business. He leads a team which consists of two horticulture foremen and an additional six professionals.

They accompany their customers from the planning stages to the realization of their garden dreams. They also do pavement and planting for large projects like industrial facilities or housing areas.

With the membership to BioNova, Armin Gschwend garnered the opportunity to offer his customers new ideas for their gardens. Natural water is an important element of gardening and landscaping design. Whether it's an ornamental pond supplied by a stream or a well, water elements are requested by clients quiet often. The BioNova system now combines the decorative character of water with practical utility.

Mr. Gschwend has been a member since 2011 and the demand for NSPs and Natural Pools is huge. He can gain support for his projects from the BioNova Global Head Office whenever needed. Earlier this month, Mr. Grafinger visited a beautiful BioNova project in Schongau built by Gschwend.

Altogether, the BioNova Group gained a dependable and very competent member. Important especially in the way the brand mark, BioNova, is represented by its partner companies.

For further information please visit: www.gartenbau-gschwend.de.

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Current News

BioNova Partners from all over the world came together once again for the annual Summer Meeting at Thun, Switzerland in June 2012. Last year the maintenance of NSPs and biological Natural Pools was the focus. This time the priority was to visit different types of NSPs built by Swiss partner, Hans Graf. In addition, there was a boat trip at Lake Thun followed by an outdoor Barbeque. Along with several European partners also in attendance were three other partners; one from Mauritius, John's Pools and Ponds from Canada, and for the first time, the new partners Blue Iris Pools from India. The cultural diversity resulted in a very interesting meeting!

Altogether the partners had much to tell each other because the start into the season was consistently a positive one. Not only did the long-term European, American or Australian partners have many projects on the run. The new partners from India, Rumania and - as you read already - Serbia are also busy in building NSPs and Natural Pools. In Bulgaria, BioNova built a 2.500 m² biological hotel pool and the BioNova Global Head Office is currently refurbishing a private NSP at Azerbaijan.

With this 15th meeting, BioNova keeps to the tradition of having annual summer meetings. The huge number of positive returns encourages the BioNova Global Head Office to organize further meetings in the future. The destination for the next summer meeting has already been decided. BioNova Partner Konrad Bitters has invited the whole family to come to his home in Hamminkeln, Germany.

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Dates 2012

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

August

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

BioNova Partner Training Program
August 22 – 26, Boston, Massachusetts
BioNova Partners from the US and Canada will be attending a 5-day training program in Boston. If you are interested in becoming a Partner and attending the program, please contact us at: partner@bionovanaturalpools.com

September

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

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Containment of NSPs - The Possibilities

In our June Newsletter we already informed you about the advantages and disadvantages of sealing biological facilities with liner. But there are some more possibilities of containment:

Sealing with concrete

Using concrete as sealing material is quite popular for all kinds of architectural NSPs. There are two types of concrete which can be used, waterproof steel reinforced concrete (cast-in-situ concrete or precast concrete components) or gunite.

Waterproofing of steel reinforced concrete:
Concrete basins principally have to be built out of steel reinforced concrete. There are also strict DIN rules for this kind of sealing method. The used material has to be waterproof concrete (according to DIN 1045) and the diameter of the base plate has to be adjusted to the size of the basin. Accurate static calculations are absolutely necessary for the exact dimensioning of the basin.
It‘s also very important to build a gravel base course under the base plate to protect it from moisture penetration. In addition, the water basin and base plate has to be built frost-protected.
The basin walls are normally built with form boards. It‘s also possible to isolate the exterior wall with a special coat, provided that the wall is back-filled. The walls should be back-filled with frost-protected gravel. The building of expansions and working joints here is also very important! It‘s very important to burnish the surface of the walls otherwise the sediments in the irregularities can‘t be cleaned off.

Gunite:
Gunite is used for building free shaped forms; for example water courses or winding basins. It‘s also often used for the reconstruction of existing basins. For the setting, you need overpressure-proof tubes or pipes and special concrete shots. (Compare: DIN 18551 – Jetcrete).

The surface of gunite is naturally rough. To burnish it, the NSP builders apply another coat of close-grained plaster or a special mortar.

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Sealing with clay

You might expect that clay is the best material to seal a biological facility. This material is mostly used to seal pure ornamental ponds but the BioNova experts dissuade from using clay for the sealing. Why? Well, this kind of sealing complicates installing the technical components and increases the risk of silting up. Also a regular removal of the sediments by suction would be well-nigh impossible. In addition to that the higher local requirements and the problematical shaping of the fringe argue against this kind of sealing.

Basins out of stainless steel

This variant is visually very interesting. A basin out of stainless steel is normally seen in the traditional pool building industry. The combination of the pure natural look of the regeneration zone and the distant charm of classical stainless steel basins can be a very fascinating look! Experiences so far have shown that the texture of the stainless-steel surface is very important for this building method. The smoother the surface is, the easier it is to clean off the biofilm.

Glass reinforced plastic (GRP)

This kind of sealing plays only a minor part and is used very infrequently. The pond borders are levelled by ready-made GRP-stripes. A 5 - 10 cm thick coat of sand or concrete serves as base for the sealing. The underground must be totally dry before the application of the saturated polyester resin. After that - with resin and hardener impregnated – the glass reinforced plastic mats can be placed and following be rolled out and burnished. After hardening, the mats must be smoothed and sealed up. You can fill up the basin with water after 24 hours.

Why contacting an expert?

At this point we want to explain the complexity of building a NSP. It‘s not enough to be a technically adept workman! When planning and building a biological facility the devil is in the detail. For building an NSP you need craftsmanship and botanical and limnological knowledge. All of the BioNova Partners are experienced gardening and landscaping companies and can draw on knowledge which the BioNova Group has collected over 20 years of practical work on 5 continents. That‘s what makes BioNova your perfect partner for building your NSP!

POWERED BY NATURE – BioNova Natural Pool Systems since 1992 – ENGINEERED IN GERMANY

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BioNova History

1.568 m high in the mountains lies the small North Italian village Corvara. It‘s classified as a first-class destination for holidays at the Dolomite Alps. The region is also known as the „cradle of tourism“ because the first tourists came here in the 1950’s. The beautiful mountain scenery is very popular to hikers, mountain bikers and alpinists in the summer time.

In 1996, BioNova founder Gerhard Brandlmaier built a biological cleaned biotope lake with a water area of 2.400 m². Surrounded by the summits of the Dolomite Alps, this manmade lake looks like a natural alpine lake.

The facility consists of three natural ponds (bathing pond, regeneration pond and a pond especially for children) and a lawn for sunbathing. At the snack bar by the lake, the tourists can buy beverages and snacks. There‘s also a playground for children with a slide and some swings.

This biological biotope lake is an oasis for children and adults and a further attraction for the lovely vacation spot Corvara.

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