

## Out of Eden Garden Center Participates in Koi Rescue

**Out of Eden, a garden center located in Maryville, Tenn., recently took in about 100 koi that were rescued from a nearby vacant house.**

Posted: August 16, 2010, 5 p.m. EDT

Out of Eden, a garden center located in Maryville, Tenn., recently took in about 100 koi that were rescued from a nearby vacant house. Local authorities found the fish in ponds in the backyard of house in Townsend, Tenn. The electricity that ran the ponds' filter systems had been shut off, according to Out of Eden owner Gary Bridenbaugh.

With the assistance of Blount County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the koi, which vary in variety and size, and one bull frog were transferred to Out of Eden's quarter-of-an-acre display pond. Bridenbaugh said it made sense to take in the animals since he has the facility to care for them.

"We've got a pond, and I said sure we'll take them," Bridenbaugh said. "Eventually, I want to build a platform and make it part of the garden center experience."

In the meantime, Bridenbaugh said the koi are "doing fine," and he has begun taking in unwanted koi from across the county.