

January 2011

Hi Habitat Network

I have attached some photos in relation to ponds that I have just built at my place at Gladesville (near Boronia park). The first three photos relate to the back yard pond. The system is a grey water filtration gravel and reed bed. Grey water currently from the laundry is fed into a 4m x 1m gravel reed bed that runs into the pond. I don't use washing detergent, only soap nuts (dried berry from an African plant that produces a soapy cleaning effect).

The first photo shows the before (after removal of some small shrubs), the second photo relates to the pond being built and the third is the completed pond. The system was built in late October. On Christmas eve I heard the sound of a striped marsh frog, who has now taken up residency. I also have small native fish in the pond (Pacific blue eyes) and they have just given birth to a number of babies, indicating that the water quality of the pond is looking good.

The last photo is of a pond I just completed about 2 weeks ago at the front of the property. I have included a small beach so that lizards etc can come down to drink. I have since planted more water plants and as you can see, need to plant some low shrubs, grasses and add a few logs to provide habitat for birds, lizards and frogs. Further plantings will also be made in the back for the same reason.

Cheers, Deborah

