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A Man Who's Not Afraid to Cry

What a year! Nearly six have passed since I started building Aquascape, Inc. water features. I attended a BAP event in Kent, Washington to see what this pond building “thing” was all about. It was being taught by some redheaded kid who seemed way too young and far too shy to be teaching a hands-on seminar. I thought, “Well this is gonna be a waste of a hundred and some bucks!” Then he started talking about ponds and leading us through how to build one the “Aquascape Way.” Wow! Thanks Brian! Your expertise and enthusiasm pretty much changed the direction my road was running back then!



Challenging and Rewarding

Blue Creek Landscape is finishing up our 14th pond this season – several have been rather large installations that were as challenging as they were rewarding. Yeah...more than once this year I cried when we fired up the pumps. I *do* try to make sure the client isn't around at the initial start-up, and my crew is pretty used to me getting all choked up at the first splashing of the falls!

There's been some very encouraging growth for this “sideline” business along the way (I'm still working 10 to 15 24-hour shifts a month as a paramedic here in the mountains...soon to be a full-time “ponderer”). In 2002, we were ranked at #243 in the top 500 line up. I thought at the time, ‘If we can just get into the top 200 next year, we'll be doin' all right.’ The envelope arrived last year for the 2003 standings. I thought they had made a mistake. We jumped to 43rd. Like I said, some of our installations have been pretty large.

No Apologies, Please!

Thanks to Aquascape's support, innovation, and willingness to explore as well as share advanced techniques of water feature construction. The quality of our work continues to improve. That degree of improvement was most recently borne out by a clean-out visit to the very first pond I built “for money” back in 2000. Talk about embarrassing! It was all I could do to keep from apologizing! Maybe we'll talk about a retrofit next season...either that or a binding agreement that prohibits the client from telling anyone that Blue Creek installed their pond! Dig deep! Laugh Often! Love Much!