

# Our Story

Though Total Habitat is widely known today for pioneering the Natural Swimming Pool/Pond system used in North America (and beyond), we actually began as a Zoo Exhibit design and fabrication company back in the late 1990's. After building an otter habitat and watching them joyfully swim about in the crystal-clear, chemical-free water of their exhibit, we thought, we need to do this for humans!

Though chlorine-free swimming pools and ponds were already in use in parts of Europe at that time, our challenge was to create a system that would reliably work in not-so-temperate climates like those of the United States, Mexico, Canada, India, Spain and South America. Using knowledge gained from years of experience in the Zoo and Aquarium industries, we studied all things water and water filtration, drawing from biology, chemistry, and the waste water treatment industry. After several test tubs and ponds, we built our first natural swimming pool in 2000 and released our how-to eBook in 2002 (now in its 3rd Edition). Over the last two decades, we've built natural pools all across the U.S., from coast to coast and in all climates, proving our system works and that swimming naturally *is* the future.











# The (Natural) Water















# Why Swim Naturally?





### **BENEFITS**

- Freshwater: No Chlorine or Salt-Chlorine
- Crystal-Clear, Clean Water
- Provide Year-Round Enjoyment
- Pet Friendly (Bring On Your Water Dogs!)
- Bring Nature to Your Space
- Provide STEM Education Opportunities

- Provide Water Gardening Opportunities
- Can Be Used For Ice Skating
- Kid & Family Friendly
- Can Feature Edible & Medicinal Plants

### **FEATURES**

- Piers or Docks
- Jumping Boulders
- Waterfalls or Streams
- Zero-Entry or Step-In Beaches
- Infinity Edges
- Heated Swimming

## Total Habitat Media Attention

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2003 From Europe, A No-Chlorine Backyard Pool

CK HILLEARY, an industrial designer who builds zoo exhibits and trade show displays, and who expanded into residential pools five years ago, has found that Americans have a clearly defined idea of what constitutes a proper swimming pool.

"It's a white-tiled thing," said Mr. Hilleary, whose company, Total Habitat, in Bonner Springs, Kan., specializes in what could be called the opposite of the white- or blue-tiled things found in millions of backyards across the country.

The "natural pools" that Total Habitat builds are bordered with wood, planted with lush vegetation and free of chemicals like chlorine; they resemble nothing so much as a swimming hole. "It's natural-looking, like a pond," Mr. Hilleary said. "But the water looks so clean. People really want to swim in it, more than in a

Natural swimming pools (or swimming ponds, as

they are called in Europe ed 20 years ago) are sell swimming areas and wat signs vary - the pools ca inforced polyethylene, as and may look rustic or m rely on "regeneration" aquatic plants that act as

The pools have sk

Nuts&Bolts

AT THE HEART OF BUILDING A HOME BY DAMARIS COLHOUN

A LIFE AQUATIC Bryan Morse builds chlorine



### THE SPECIALIST **ECO-FRIENDLY POOLS**

lleary's pools typically feature a swim zone in the cents can step across the filtration section and dive straight into the



DECORATING HOME IMPROVEMENT GARDEN HOUSEKEEPING RECIPES HOLIDAYS HOME IMPROVEMENT IDEAS > OUTDOOR STRUCTURES > POOLS & SPAS Natural Swimming Pools Are the Charming, Chemical-Free Alternative to Chlorine Pools By Kristina McCuirk | Published on July 5, 2022

Looking for a chemical-free alternative to a traditional pop that fits into the surrounding environment? For eco-consci

Also called a natural pool, swimming pond, or a living poo have been established in Europe for decades, and they co the U.S. as their style and eco-forward function is embrac



What Is a Natural Swimmin



Today's top pool designers are to stifle the growth of algae and

BLEACHING ACTION The attitude is, just throw in a lot the swimmer," he says. However,

Today's swimming pools

o chemical changes is called

pochlorite in bleach gradually leases free chlorine atoms into molecules in the bacteria and the in which atoms or molecules lose 1) The New York Times, 2007

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

2) Better Homes & Gardens, 2022

84 RESPONSES

3) The Wall Street Journal, 2021

4) House & Garden, 2007

5) Current Science, 2006

6) Luxury Pools + Outdoor Living, 2017













"We absolutely love our Natural Swimming Pond and so does everyone who comes here!"

- Eve, Elohee Center: Meditation & Healing Retreat in Georgia

"The waterfall, plant life, fish and pool add life, beauty and calm to our surroundings"

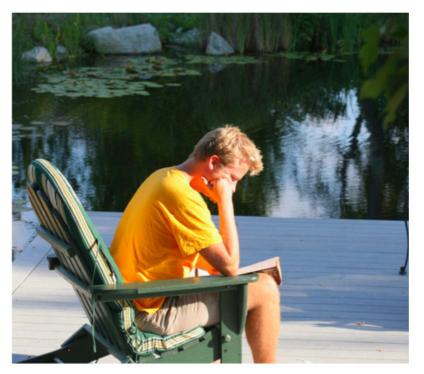
- Nancy, Residential Natural Pool Client in Kansas

"There's so much nature here now... (our son) spends more time outside and now all his friends want to come here to hang out"

- Julie, Residential Natural Pool Client in Connecticut

















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