

Closing Your Pond for the Season

1. Partial or full water change
2. Water treatments Needed
 - a. Chlorine and Heavy Metal Neutralizer
 - b. Stress Coat
 - c. Beneficial Bacteria (helps break down debris)
 - d. Pond Salt
3. Container for fish if going full water change (use existing pond water only for fish)

Tools Needed:

1. Wet vac
2. Sump pump
3. Can use own pump to drain pond
4. Pool skimmer or net to get floating debris or debris settled on bottom
5. Pond heater or aerator with air stones to keep pond from freezing over

With small ponds, total drainage is recommended, with larger ponds, drain 1/3 to 1/2 of pond water using sump pump or your own pump. Use wet vac to vacuum out any debris and muck off shelves and on sides of pond. Spread the muck collected in your existing garden, it's a great organic fertilizer.

Cut back plants if you have them and set them lower in your pond for over wintering (water lilies and lotus) bog plants can stay where they are.

If you have a surmergable pump, after emptying pond to desirable amount, remove the pump for the season. If you have an above ground system, open all valves and remove plugs, lids, and UV light bulb and store for the season. Use wet vac to blow out all pipes as well as you can, remove all filters, clean and store for the season.

Refill pond, adding Chlorine and Heavy Metal Neutralizer, Stress Coat, and Fall/Winter Beneficial Bacteria to pond water.

If fish were removed, add small amounts of New pond water to the container to help the fish to become acclimated to the new water, continue until you add about 50% of the new pond water, then add back to pond. You can also add pond salt at this time. READ INSTRUCTIONS

Use aerator with air stones or a pond heater to keep an opening in the pond when the weather causes freezing. This opening is vital for your fish's survival during the winter months. Their by-products and debris in the pond, breaks down and creates methane gas which needs to escape. If it can't escape, it can build up creating toxic levels and kill your fish. Stop feeding your fish when water temp's stay below 55 degrees and don't start feeding them until the water temps reach a constant 55 degrees in spring. Start with a Staple food, (high in carbohydrates). As months go by add beneficial bacteria every 4 to 5 weeks as recommended.



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