

SPRING START-UP CHECK LIST

- Remove all leaves and organic material from the bottom of the pond with a net or pond vacuum.
- When water temp, is above 45 ° F. A water change of 35% to no more than 60%. Trying to remove as much sludge from the bottom of the pond.
- Replace water to the pond at the same temperature of the pond (use a thermometer), making sure you condition the water before adding it to the pond. (Hint: fill a container with water to warm up before adding it to the pond), or running a garden hose at a slow flow, with a same temp as pond water!
NEVER add straight tap water without conditioning it.
- Test your water to know the condition of your pond. i.e. test strip or liquid
- **Before starting your pump:** clean out the impeller and impeller housing (use water and vinegar and let it soak for an hour)
- **Note:** most impeller breakage occurs in the spring start up and impellers are not covered under warranty
- After pumps are cleaned and running, add a biological booster to jump start the filter.
i.e. Laguna Pond Detox, Pond Care Biofilter Booster or similar.
- Add a sludge remover to break down excess waste, leaves and any other organic sludge. i.e. Laguna Pond Clean, Pond Care Ecofix, Pond-Zyme, or Tetra Aqua-zyme
- Add pond salt to replace essential electrolytes and to help fish fight off diseases. (Planted ponds 1 ¼ cup per 100gallons- 0.1% on test kit)
Salt should not be added to ponds with tropical floating plants,” Hyacinths”
- Add a clarifier if your pond is murky. i.e. Green water clarifier, Simple clear
- Replace any old filter materials. i.e. sponges and biological media.
- Restart your biological filter and UV sterilizers (most UV bulbs should be replace every season)
- **FEEDING YOUR FISH:**
Between 50F and 70F only use a low temperature food (wheat germ) and feed small amounts. Do not feed a summer food at this point, it will cause unnecessary problems or fish losses.
Above 70F a summer food can be used to enhance the colors on the fish.
- Do not put floating tropical plants into the pond until the night time temperature is above 60F.
- You can divide and re-pot any root-bound plants and use a plant tablet food to help provide the necessary nutrients to the plants.
- Note: try to achieve 60-70% coverage with floating plants, lilies, lotus etc.
As the season continues.

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