



LANDMASTERS

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Summer Pond Maintenance

1. **Test your pond** weekly and test immediately if you suspect any fish maladies, such as finding them lying at the bottom of the pond or gasping for oxygen at the surface.
2. We recommend a 25% water change monthly if you have many Koi or large fish in your pond. If you have chlorine in your water, spray the water into your pond and add a de-chlorinator such as **Stress Coat**. Spraying water over the surface of the pond puts the chlorine gas under pressure and dissipates it. Chlorine can harm not only fish but your beneficial bacteria as well.
3. Follow the label directions on your beneficial **bacteria (Clear Pond, Microbe-Lift, or Pond Zyme)** and add it as directed. Turn off your UV lights for 24 hours after adding your bacteria to prevent killing it.
4. Feed your fish a quality, nutritionally balanced food. As the temperature of the pond increases, so does a fish's activity. A high protein summer food, such as **Pond Care Summer Staple or Legacy Summer Staple or High Growth & Energy**, will give them the nutrients they need to thrive. A good rule of thumb, as to how much you should feed them, is no more than they can consume within a few minutes. If there is any remaining, remove it with a net.
5. If you are going away, use **Pond Feeder Blocks**, to feed your fish. This works much better than asking a well-meaning friend to feed them, who might decide more is better, and give them so much that when you come home they are either dead or sick.
6. Feed your plants, with **plant tabs**, especially your lilies once a month, to keep them looking their best and so that they will continue to bloom. Cut back or remove any decaying leaves before they fall to the bottom of the pond.
7. Resolve cloudy water problems or suspended particles by using **Accu-clear** a flocculent. A flocculent will clump suspended particles together and either bring them to the surface or drop them to the bottom of the pond where your bacteria will consume them.
8. Prevent losing oxygen in your water by moving your water. Plants respire at night by consuming oxygen and giving off carbon dioxide so that is when there is the lowest level of

oxygen in the pond. It is important to run your pump during the night to add oxygen back into the water and during very hot days.

9. Control algae problems when they appear or take preventative measures. A stringy algae is not a bad thing but if it gets unsightly or out of control it is best to use **Pond Balance, Algae Fix or Microbial Algae Clean**. **Algae Fix** is also good for suspended algae; however, use it only when you are oxygenating your pond. In addition, we do not suggest using it on a very hot day because warm water has the lowest concentration of oxygen! We recommend oxygenating plants such as **anacharis** to prevent green pond as they compete with algae for the same nutrients. **Barley Pellets** can be used as a preventive measure when placed in the flow of water. We recommend oxygenating plants such as **anacharis** to prevent green pond as they compete with algae for the same nutrients. **Barley** in any form can be used as a preventive measure when placed in the flow of water. Surface coverage is another great way to reduce algae. The less sunlight the algae in the water get, the less they can grow. Your pond should ideally have about 70% of its surface covered to reduce algae growth. **Water Hyacinths, Water Lilies, and Floating Island Planters** are all great ways to provide surface coverage