

# FOUNTAIN MAINTENANCE TIPS



## WEEKLY MAINTENANCE

Add water to the basin as necessary. Low water levels are generally caused by evaporation and/or splash. The pump needs to be submerged at all times and not be allowed to run dry. Simply add water using your garden hose or install an Auto Fill Kit. If you find the water is running low frequently you may reduce the flow of the pump by adjusting the ball valve, add a splash apron around the perimeter of the basin so that you catch and retain more of the water in motion. Also, move any pebbles that are causing splash.

**Auto Fill Kit** - An add-on feature designed to work with our AquaBox® Basins and Pump Canyons®. They easily attach a fill valve to a ½" irrigation or ¾" garden hose connection, automatically filling a basin reservoir dropping below a set level.

## SEASONAL CLEANING

**Every spring and fall** drain the basin and replace with fresh water. Wet vac your basin if you notice excess debris that may clog your pump. If your fountain contains an anti-splash mat, remove any leaves and debris from it and rinse thoroughly.

## WINTERIZING FOUNTAINS

**Removing your pump and storing inside during the winter months is the most important step.** We recommend you disassemble and clean the pump before placing it in a bucket of water and storing in an area that will not freeze. This helps keep the seals wet and the impeller from sticking.

**DO NOT drain the basin for the winter.** It is best to keep the basin about 50% filled with water to avoid heaving during freeze and thaw. Drain and refill in spring during your seasonal cleaning.

**DO NOT allow water to sit inside of a ceramic vase fountain and freeze.** Move vases, copper pieces and any delicate fountains indoors to prevent cold weather damage. Most basalt fountains and boulder/stone fountains can be left in place on the basin all winter and do not need to be covered.

If your fountain is too heavy to move we recommend covering it with a Fountain Cover or tarp. Any cover should suffice so long as it repels the water and doesn't allow build up in or on the fountain.

**NOTE:** Winter damage is not covered under warranty.

## ROUTINE WATER TREATMENTS

Water treatment use depends on product, time of season, and condition of the water feature. Use as directed. Safe for wildlife.



### ALGAE D-SOLV®

CrystalClear Algae D-Solv is a 5.4% active EPA registered liquid algaecide.

This preventative treatment targets string algae, blanket weed and green water caused by single-celled algae. CrystalClear Algae D-Solv contains no copper and is safe for wildlife when used as directed.

**USE weekly at first for preventative maintenance, then every other week to manage algae growth.**

### POND FIX® - DRY

**Suited for spot application,** sprinkle on problem areas to quickly remove stringy growth from fountains and stones. Also works great for waterfalls, rocks, and streams. It is best to turn off pumps so water stops flowing. Add the powder directly to the stringy growth and let sit for 15-20 minutes. Spray or wash away stringy growth. Turn pumps back on.

**USE this whenever stringy growth becomes present. Do not add Pond Fix on the same day you treat with Muck Buster®.**



### MUCK BUSTER®

Beneficial bacteria with barley and enzymes help break down organic debris that leads to clogging and decreased flow of the pump. For use after algaecide treatment when sludge begins developing from decaying algae. **DO NOT USE Muck Buster at the same time as an algaecide.** Accidental usage of both together won't actually hurt anything but your pocketbook, algaecides kill the beneficial bacteria in Muck Buster, lowering its effectiveness. Wait at least 4-5 days after algaecide treatment to apply Muck Buster.

**USE every other week on the opposite week of your algaecide treatment to help clear build up from dead algae and other organic debris.**



Keep in mind that every fountain is unique and experiences different site conditions and water quality changes. If you have additional questions on how to maintain your water feature, please visit our website at [shopbluethumb.com](http://shopbluethumb.com)