



SPRING POND PREP GUIDE



Blue Thumb
Ponds / Waterfalls / Fountains

PRODUCTS

- Spring & Fall Clean Packets
- Purify
- Muck Buster®
- Pond Cleaner
- Algae D-Solv®
- AlgaeOff®
- Barley Pellets or Bales

SPRING FISH CARE

You can begin feeding your fish when water temperatures remain at 50°F or higher. With water temperature at 50 to 65°F you can feed your fish once or twice a week. Sakana® Koi Spring & Autumn Pellet is a cold water food is a wheat based diet ideal for feeding during colder periods of the year. Fish foods can contain Vitamin C and brewer's yeast to promote fish development and natural nutritional supplements designed to improve disease resistance.

We recommend adding Pond Salt to help your fish fight off bacteria infections and parasites. During the spring weather your fish's immune system is not up to par so during the spring keep a good eye on your fish to catch anything early.

It's finally here, Spring!

The air is fresh and clean, birds fill the air with song, spring flowers start to make their appearance, and with water temperatures consistently above 40°F for a week or more we can start our ponds up for another enjoyable season. Below you will find the steps to lead you through the cleaning and start up process of your pond.

- 1 Spring Cleaning** — Rake up all the sticks and leaves from the surrounding area to prevent them from being blown into the pond once the pond has been cleaned. It is also time to remove the Pond Netting used over the winter to keep leaves out. Remove debris from the pond. Use a Skimmer Net to remove any floating debris. For debris on the pond bottom use a Debris Net and/or a Pond Vacuum.
- 2 Water Changes** — If your pond has minimal debris and sludge buildup, you may simply perform a 25% water change to refresh the water. Any debris and/or sludge buildup will elevate toxin levels, so a 25% water change is always a good way to refresh the pond water. However, when adding new water always add a beneficial water conditioner (Purify) to release chlorine and chloramines from city water and neutralize heavy metals from city and well water.
- 3 Place Plants** — Retrieve plants that you have wintered over from the pond bottom. Take care not to harm the crown of the plant while you clean off debris, cut back dead stems, and set them in their proper places. Spring is an excellent time to divide and repot, with the exception of early blooming plants such as Iris's. When dividing, make sure to keep the crown above the soil line, especially with water lilies. When plants begin to sprout new growth, you may use slow release plant tabs (Pondtabbs®) to fertilize and promote growth.
- 4 System Check** — Check filters and reconnect pumps. If the filter pads or skimmer pads were not cleaned last fall, they should be cleaned prior to starting up the system. Do not over clean the filter pads or use any form of soap, or bleach. This is the best time to inspect and replace old worn out filter pads. Two great choices are polyester pads or the long lasting Matala filter material. If you have tubing that was disconnected over the winter, or ball-valves that were opened up, be sure to reconnect and make adjustments prior to turning on the pumps.
- 5 Beneficial Bacteria Boost** — Getting your pond's beneficial bacteria levels up early in the season means fewer challenges later. Look for a cold weather bacteria (Spring & Fall Clean Packets). This will work in cooler weather until your pond is consistently above 60°F, then switch over to a summer bacteria (Muck Buster® and Pond Cleaner).

This will be a good guide to use to get your pond up and running to have a successful year. Our goal is for you to spend a lot more time enjoying your pond than working on it!