

## The Perfect Pond

- **1. Spring Cleanout:** The purpose of the spring cleanout is to remove excess nutrients and replenish the water. This will help you regain control of string algae while aquatic plant and beneficial bacteria start to grow and create balance once again.
- **2. Beneficial Bacteria:** Bacteria in the pond and filter will naturally balance the ponds water. Beneficial bacteria will help with the removal of fish waste and compete with algae for nutrients in the pond. You should be adding beneficial bacteria according to the manufacturing's applications.
- 3. Aquatic plants: Aquatic plants play a large role in your ponds ecosystem. They remove excessive amounts of nutrients from the ponds water. The plants act like a filter much like the human kidney removing waste and filtering waste. Aquatic plants help control string algae growth by competing for the nutrient in the ponds water. The more aquatic plants you have the greater reduce of algae.
- **4.Pond Maintenance:** This is very important to have a weekly regiment for pond maintenance. A pond does take a little work. Compared to a garden or a lawn, the pond is very low maintenance. The regiment should include:
  - Removing debris from pond skimmer net and filter pad.
  - Removing dead aquatic plant material
  - Trimming aquatic plants and keeping control of there growth.
  - Keeping Algae in control and with Green Clean and Algae fix products.
  - Adding in maintenance doses of beneficial bacteria.
- <u>5. Fish:</u> The pond is an ecosystem and the fish are an essential part of the ecosystem. Having the proper stock levels of fish is very important to the pond's health. Too many fish can be damaging to your ponds ecosystem therefore over loading filters.
- **<u>6. Filtration:</u>** Having the right filter is very important. If you cannot get your pond to balance, your filter may be too small for your pond. You should have a mechanical filter such as a skimmer, and a bio-filter such as a bio-falls or bog filter.
- <u>7. The Right Pump:</u> The pump is the heart of your pond. The correct size pump is very important. The correct pump should pump at least half of you ponds volume in an hour.
- **8. Water Testing:** Is a great way to see if you pond is balanced. Just because the water is clear does not make it the perfect pond. You should be testing the water in your pond every two weeks. If there is a problem with your water quality the result will be fatal and damaging to your fish.
- **9. Be Patient:** It's hard to be patient sometimes. Just remember that great things take time and Mother Nature takes time.