

Protecting Your Pond & Fish During Autumn & Winter



For many parts of the United States, it's getting to be that time of year again - leaves fall from trees, the weather turns cool, then cold, and then even colder! A pond in poor condition after summer will subsequently have a rough time in the winter.

It's time to protect your pond, fish, and aquatic plants before the seasons change. Anything you can do to reduce stress before and during winter will pay off appreciably next spring!

Prepare your pond for the fall weather by first giving it a good cleaning, and making sure to remove any fallen leaves and debris. Next, cover it with a net to prevent any more debris from falling in and decaying.

As temperatures drop, monitor the water temperature to maintain an ideal environment for fish. You'll need to start transitioning fish diets, as well, to accommodate the changes they will undergo as the seasons change. It's best to opt for wheat-germ-based food for Koi and Goldfish since this type is highly digestible — important as the metabolism of your fish will diminish in the colder months. When temperatures drop into the thirties and below, you can often stop feeding fish altogether.

As for aquatic plants, now's the time to prune back dead foliage and bring any non-hardy varieties indoors before the first frost.

When Old Man Winter shows up, be ready by investing in an aerator or de-icer. The aerator or de-icer will keep an area of the

pond from freezing over, which is essential for fish survival. When temperatures become extreme, you'll want to shut down your equipment, disconnect the pump, UV clarifier, and filter before water freezes. It's a good idea to store the equipment inside away from harmful elements. Now is also a great time to clean it and prepare for spring!

Follow these guidelines this fall and winter, and you'll be good to go come spring!

For more information or if you have any questions:
Contact us by calling 231-834-7720, or by using our convenient **online contact form.**

