

Pond Closing Checklist

Materials needed

Long handled net

Several Buckets

Knife

Netting

Stakes or rocks

Pond dye

Shopvac need to be a wet/dry vac

Flat head screwdriver

Channel locks

Salt

Scale for measuring salt

Small sledge Hammer

Heater

Aerator with tubing and airstones

String

Some form of suspension pvc pipe or wood or some string to help keep the leaves off the pond

The Process

1. Remove pump from skimmer and sink the pump in the bottom of the pond.
2. Remove skimmer parts and store in garage
3. If you have a pressure filter remove filter from the system take it apart and clean the components and store it in the garage.
4. Vac or blow out lines from the pump to the water feature.
5. Remove Tropical plant material
6. Cut back hardy plant material
7. Drop plant pots into the appropriate levels
8. Add enough salt to get your salt levels up to 2 lbs for every 100 gallons of water.
9. Add an aerator to the pond that's appropriately sized for your pond and fish load.
10. Add a heater if shallower than 3 feet in depth or if you want to keep a hole in the ice.
11. Add black pond dye if your pond is at risk of a mink during the winter.
12. Put a net on the Pond to help keep the leaves out of the pond.
13. CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR POND HAS A HOLE IN THE ICE.
 - a. Gas exchange is important for your fish's health. Without that hole nitrogen will build up in the pond and in high enough levels your fish will die or be very sick.
14. If you see a dead fish in your pond remove the dead fish as soon as possible
 - a. Having a dead fish rotting in your pond can increase ammonia levels and could increase the chances of your other fish also dieing or becoming sick.