

Pond Opening Checklist

Materials needed

Tanks for fish
Aerator with airstones
Pump
Discharge Hose
Dechlorinator
Long handled Net
Koi sock Net
Several 5 gallon Buckets
A wet/dry vac
Flat head screwdriver
Channel Locks
Non Ionized Salt
Bacteria
Filter Media
Barley Balls
Buffer
Tablespoon
Power Washer
Gas
Extension Cord

The Process

1. Get tanks filled with clean water.
2. Add dechlorinator to the tanks
3. Get aerator in tanks
4. Start Pumping out the pond
5. Once pond is low enough to enter the pond start moving fish from pond to tanks
6. Cover tanks if necessary.
 - a. Some fish can get a bit jumpy
7. Start removing heavy debris from bottom of the pond
8. After the majority of the heavy debris is removed from the pond. Power wash the rocks and the liner.
 - a. Be careful when power washing the pond you don't want to get the power washer nozzle too close to the rocks and liner you might blow a hole into your liner or the rocks.
9. After everything is power washed start wet vacing all the debris from the powerwashing
10. Continue shopvacing until you see bare liner (unless you have carpet algae that's good stuff)
11. Start filling the pond
 - a. Spray water into pond to help remove chlorine in tap water
12. Add dechlorinator to pond
13. After a few minutes add bacteria to pond
14. Clean and shop vac filter
 - a. Remove old media
 - b. Power wash old media
 - c. Powerwash filter and shopvac the debris out.
 - d. If the filter pads tear apart with your hands its time to replace media
 - e. Once the media is clean, reassemble the filter.
15. Clean and and shop vac skimmer
16. Once the skimmer is clean reassemble the skimmer
17. Attach pump inside of skimmer
18. Wait for Pond to fill enough to release fish

19. Add salt when pond is completely full (1 lb for every 100 gallons of pond water)
 - a. **DO NOT** add algaecide when using salt when you mix these products together and it can lead to a mass death in your pond.
 - b. You can add algaecide to a pond after you use salt you have to wait 14 days before you add the products
20. Add Barley ball(s) 1 Barley ball for every 1,000 gallons of pond water
21. Clean up the yard if there is a significant amount of waste in the grass!
22. Once the pond is full enough to safely run the water feature, run it.
23. Note the salt that we suggest for use will muddy up the water for a few days before it goes completely into solution.
24. Test water with test strips check the levels of buffers
25. Add buffers if necessary 1 tablespoon is good for 500 gallons of water