

# Springtime and Summertime Care



## APRIL

In early April once the ice has cleared, bring your plants close to the surface

1. Place water lilies on inverted pots so they are approximately 6-8" below the water surface & fertilize with aquatic plant fertilizer
  2. Lotus like to be 2-5" below the water surface & fertilize
  3. All hardy marginals can go back on the shelves & fertilized
- Clean your filter media.
  - Start your re-circulating pump if you have one
  - Repotting of water lilies and bog plants can be done at this time, we carry all the supplies , pots, aquatic soil & fertilizer, for you to do it yourself or we can do it for you, you choose.
  - Adding beneficial bacteria, such as Pond Perfect, to jump start your filter is a good idea.
  - Having green water at this time is not a bad sign and should be temporary, if you have an ultra violet clarifier wait 3-4 weeks before turning it on, this will allow your biological filter to mature. (if you need to replace the light or broke the glass sleeve to your UVC, we carry the replacements or can get them). We can also check, service and repair UV lights.
  - Start feeding your fish once the water temp is over 50 degrees with Spring & Autumn Fish Food, or wheat germ

This is a good time to do a partial water change and remove any debris that may have accumulated over the fall and winter. A few 10-20% partial water changes are best for fish (if you are on town water you need to add a dechlorinator).

## MAY

Now things are moving along nicely, the water temperature is rising and the plants are growing at a nice pace. You may even see a water lily blossom by the end of the month!

1. Increase fertilizing water lilies and lotus to every two week, bog plants can remain at once a month
2. Put out your tropical plants outside and add your water hyacinths once the threat of frost has past
3. The end of the month is a good time to get a tropical water lily (as long as Mother Nature has been nice to us)
4. Remove any dead foliage. This is a nice time of year for putting in that second pond for a 'Wetland Filtration' or adding the Oase Filtoclear.
5. Once the water temperature is over 68 degrees switch fish food to a high protein or summer food blend (watch out for corn in the top 3 ingredients, high quality food will not have corn at all)

## JUNE - AUGUST

This is the time for enjoyment!

Regular maintenance of "Bio-filter" Units (if you have one)

Make sure your pump intake is clear, if you see a decrease in the water flow, time to clean the trap

Keep fertilizing your hardy water lilies & lotus every two week. Tropical water lilies should be fertilized every week.

Water lilies will be blossoming in June/July

By the mid-July, lotuses should be pushing a bud if not a blossom

Remember Water Gardening is low maintenance and you shouldn't spend more than 2 hours maintaining the pond. If you are, we can help.



Routes 5 & 10  
Deerfield, Ma  
413-774-POND (7663)