

#5 ICE ISSUES

KEEP A HOLE IN THE ICE SO THAT THERE IS STILL GAS EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE POND AND THE AIR.

This hole can be created a few different ways. The first is to add an air pump to your system, keeping the air stone in the top third of the pond. The moving air and water will not freeze.

The second choice is to add a de-icer, which has a thermostat that allows the pond to freeze everywhere except near the de-icer.

The third choice is to allow the pump to run, as moving water cannot freeze. You will need to add water during these freezing periods, so have a hose and water ready to go. If you don't run the pump, it is safest to bring it inside in a non freezing location and to keep the seals moist by placing the pump in a bucket of water.



CHALILY CHECKLIST

- ☐ POND NETTING
- ☐ AUTUMN / WINTER BACTERIA
- ☐ COOL WATER FISH FOOD
- ☐ POND THERMOMETER



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5 TIPS
FOR THE AUTUMN/WINTER POND

#1 NETTING

KEEPING LEAVES OUT OF YOUR WATER FEATURE SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST GOAL THIS TIME OF YEAR!

Leaves and debris will cause the water to turn toxic for your fish and wildlife.

Netting can help keep leaves and other autumn debris out! It's available in different styles and three grades. The higher the grade, the easier it is to use and the longer it will last.

Pop Up Netting Kits make the task of netting the pond so much easier. The Pop Up Nets are available in multiple sizes and literally take just minutes to set into place.



#2 PREP THE WATER

BACTERIA THAT STAY WITH YOUR POND ALL WINTER LONG.

As the water temperature changes, you should change to a cool weather bacteria. Autumn / Winter Prep bacteria reduces buildup of dead leaves and organic sediment all winter long.

Barley is a natural algae preventative. Barley bales are something that need to be replaced every six months. If you place a bale in the pond during the spring, now is the time to add the new bale. After one month of both bales, remove the old bale.

#3 TRIM PLANTS

TRIM BACK WATER PLANTS AFTER THE FIRST HEAVY FROST.

You should cut them back just above the water level. If the plant is an annual, then either put it in the compost pile or bring it indoors prior to the first frost. Perennial water lilies should be left in the pond! Simply remove the leaves after a heavy frost. Annual water lilies can be kept if you save the tuber indoors.



#4 FISH SAFETY

YOUR FISH WILL NEED SPECIAL ATTENTION TO HELP PREPARE.

Use a pond thermometer to help decide when to switch fish food. When the water temperature falls below 65 degrees change to a wheatgerm based fish food.

Feed this low temp food until the water temp falls below 40 degrees. Then no food all winter long. This wheatgerm food is much easier for the fish to digest. The summer blends of food can actually spoil in the fish system as their metabolism is too slow to digest the food.

