

ALGAE PREVENTION CENTER

If you are having troubles with algae summer after summer ask yourself the following questions. Maybe you will find something you are missing.

These are just some of the tips that will make your ponding more enjoyable and best of all, less work for you.

1 Do I add enough or any beneficial bacteria?

Beneficial bacteria is one of the best algae preventers in your pond. The bacteria breaks down pond debris, such as fish waste, uneaten fish food, and organic matter including leaves and grass clippings. By breaking down this debris or sludge, nutrients become unavailable for the various types of pond algae to feed from and as a result, algae is reduced in the water garden.

2 Do I have enough biological media to support beneficial bacteria?

There are many different types of biological media. You are looking for surface area when it comes to picking out the best media. If you want more beneficial bacteria, give it more surface area to grow and work. Matala has the most surface area and lasts for years. It is easy to clean and easy to cut to the size you need. We suggest the green Matala mat for the best biological filtration.

3 Do I have the right equipment for my pond?

For a typical water garden, we suggest using a skimmer box (mechanical filtration) to skim debris from the pond so it doesn't settle to the bottom. It is very easy to maintain and acts as a prefilter for your pump which sits in the back of the skimmer. A skimmer is used in conjunction with a waterfall box (biological filtration). This is where most of your beneficial bacteria is going to grow and work filtering the water as it passes through the media while giving your pond a natural looking waterfall.

4 Do I have the right size pump?

A typical water garden should have the water turn over at least once an hour. For example: if you have a 2000 gallon pond you would want a pump that is at least 2000 gallons per hour. More turn over the better but this is the minimum you will want to aim for.

5 Do I have enough or any aquatic plants?

Aquatic plants are a huge algae preventer and gives your pond a more natural look. Aquatic plants out compete algae for nutrients that are in the pond therefore starving the algae. There are many types of plants that can be used in your pond, lilies, marginal's, floaters, and oxygenators. The more plants the better.



Blue Thumb

Ponds / Waterfalls / Fountains