

# WATER FEATURE MAINTENANCE

## **Suggestions**

- Pond care should start with at least one type of filtration unit; a biofalls, skimmer box, or UV filter. A skimmer box will remove leaves or other loose debris from the water. A biofalls system filters out algae and other organisms, and it also stores beneficial bacteria in the filter. A UV filter will clump algae and other particles so they can be filtered out easily.
- Keep a close eye on your pond or stream for algae growth.
- Make sure your pond or stream is on a routine maintenance schedule, which includes using one of the maintenance products listed below.
- Be cautious when using chemicals and organic materials to maintain your pond, too much or too little of these products may aggravate conditions.
- Store aquatic maintenance products in a cool dry place.

## **Pond Treatments**

**Water Conditioner:** This chemical should be used during the spring start-up of the pond. It helps to detoxify and remove the heavy metals and chlorine from tap water. Fish safe.

**Pond Balance:** This product is an organic product and utilizes natural bacteria to help stabilize the elements in a pond so that everything is in harmony. This treatment is best used as a preventative treatment to help reduce the cloudy appearance of water and algae growth. Pond Balance will neutralize bad water and will make algae clump so it can be filtered out easily. Fish safe.

**Clear Pond:** This chemical can be used to treat cloudy water conditions that have been caused by heavy rains or dirt run-off into the water feature. Clear Pond causes fine particles like dirt to clump together so they can be filtered out more easily. Fish safe.

**Algae Fix:** This chemical can be used as a preventative or a curative product to control most types of algae in the pond. Signs of algae are green water, green on the rocks, or long stringy green pieces that are attached to any hard surface in the pond (string algae). Fish safe.

**Barley Bag**—An organic product that helps to create natural and beneficial bacteria that will help to attack and control algae. Barley bags are best used as a preventative measure and should be installed at spring start up. Fish safe.

**Algae Off**—This is a curative product that is a powder that works on contact with algae. This product should only be used on extreme algae problems in ponds. Fish safe.

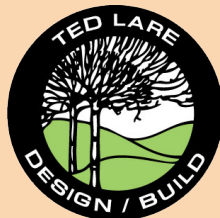
**Microbe Lift PL**—This product is an organic preventative product. It will help to create a healthy balance of all elements in your pond. The product contains beneficial bacteria that will help to clump and control dirt and algae particles. It also helps to break down dead algae and digest sludge in a pond to help reduce cleaning. It also helps to reduce ammonia. Fish safe.

**Microbe Lift SA Sludge Away**—This is product is an organic curative treatment for sludge on the bottom of the pond. This product creates bacteria that break down the waste and debris at the bottom of the pond. Fish safe.

## **All Natural Pond Care**

- To gain a natural balance in your pond do not drain the pond and power wash the rocks each year. This will allow the algae feeding bacteria that live in the rocks to remain.
- Over time the rock bacteria will help to sustain a natural balance in the pond. A UV filter will also help to control algae by making the algae clump and easier to trap in the biofilter.
- Add a barley bag which will help to produce beneficial bacteria that will work to control the algae in the pond.
- Within a couple of years the algae on the rocks should start to disappear.
- Have patience when balancing your pond naturally, it may take up two to three years but the results can be rewarding.

TED LARE DESIGN BUILD  
2701 CUMMING AVE  
CUMMING, IA 50061  
OFFICE 981-1073  
FAX 981-1074



TED'S GARDEN CENTER  
[www.tedsgarden.com](http://www.tedsgarden.com)  
PHONE 981-1075