



Summer Maintenance Checklist

Summer (June- August)...

- Ensure proper operation of filters. If water appears to be moving sluggishly, check filters and media.

Mechanical/ Biological: Clean foam media as required. DO NOT completely 'power wash' any media. This will only result in removing all of the beneficial bacteria population that has been building up throughout the season. Ensure if the filter utilizes an Ultra-Violet Clarifier (UVC) that the bulb is still operational.

Upland Wetland Filters (filter falls): Remove media and filter pad as necessary, typically this only will need to be done in the beginning and/or end of each season. If the filter utilizes plants, ensure that the water movement is not becoming slowed due to excessive plant growth. If the plants are allowed to drastically restrict water movement, it can cause water levels to rise above the filter side walls, resulting in water loss. Cut back/ remove plants as necessary. (This applies to streams and water courses as well. If the water movement becomes too restricted, the water level can rise above the liner which will result in water loss.)

Skimmer: Clean filter pad material as necessary. Routinely check leaf collection basket/ net for debris, emptying as necessary.

Pre-filter Units: Ensure the unit remains clean for proper operation.

- Ensure pump is remaining clean to prevent any wear and tear on the pump.
- Continue with Benekoi™ (beneficial bacteria) treatments following all directions.
- Monitor water level for evaporation. Replace water as required, ensuring to treat newly added water with Ultimate™ (water conditioner) following all directions.
- Continue fertilizing all aquatic plants, utilizing aquatic plant tablets following the directions.
- To prevent organic build-up in the water, prune and remove any spent flowers or foliage as required.
- Remove water hyacinths/ lettuce as required. Remember to allow only 2/3 surface coverage to maintain ecological balance. Decreased oxygen levels will result from excessive surface area coverage which can be fatal to aquatic life.
- Continue to monitor the quality of the water. Increased feeding and the addition of spent plant material decomposing in the water will increase ammonia load in the water. Ensure that the ammonia and nitrite levels are remaining low/ non-existing, treating the water as required.





- If the pond contains fish, look for any physical signs of stress/ illness (open wounds, sluggish movement, growths, etc.) and treat as necessary with an appropriate medication. Continue to monitor the salt level. This level should remain between .01 and .03. (This is especially helpful with preventing fish illness.)
- Continue to feed fish, using a high protein feed (such as Nobuyuki™ Color Enhancing or All Season fish foods)
- Monitor fish for health, especially during times of extreme heat. Due to the fact that the water molecule cannot hold as much dissolved oxygen when warm/ hot, monitor fish for proper oxygen levels. If the fish begin to gasp (or bite) at the water surface, more oxygen is required. More oxygen can be provided by running water (such as a fountain or water fall) which will cause a splashing effect, an aeration devise, or a partial water change ensuring to treat newly added water with Ultimate™ (water conditioner) following all directions.
- **Most important step:** Find a comfortable chair, a cool drink and sit back, relax and enjoy the beauty of your water feature!

