

Ponds and Water Gardens: Frequently Asked Questions Hyannis Country Garden

- **What size pump do I need?**

A pump is an essential piece of equipment for your pond. The pump you should use is based on the size of your pond and the pump capacity (gallons of water moved per hour). The pump should circulate the entire pond at least once per hour. Therefore, a 2000-gallon pond would require a pump that has a capacity of at *least* 2000 gallons per hour.

- **Can I turn my pump off at night?**

It is recommended that you keep the pump running at all times, especially if there are fish in the pond. Aeration is vital to the health of your fish, and turning off your pump at night may be harmful.

- **Can I move a fish from a natural water source to my water garden?**

It is *never* advised to do so. Fish can host a variety of bacteria and parasites. As a result, other pond life may be harmed. Also, fish from your water garden should *never* be released into a natural water source.

- **How many fish can I have in my pond?**

It depends on both the type of fish and the size of the fish. For goldfish, it is recommended that there is between ten and twenty gallons of water per fish. For Koi, the recommendation is determined by the size of the koi.

Small Koi (2" - 8") : 100 - 150 gallons
Medium Koi (8" - 14") : 250 - 300 gallons
Large Koi (14" - 24") : 400 - 500 gallons
Jumbo Koi (24" - 36") : 750 - 900 gallons

- **What are the benefits of adding plants to my pond?**

Aquatic plants will provide shade, natural filtration, reduce algae growth and help complete the nitrogen cycle. Also plants look great around the pond and soften the look of any retaining walls.

- **Should I have a UV sterilizer in my pond?**

Yes! A UV sterilizer has many benefits; it maintains the clarity of the water, it controls algae in a chemical-free way, and it eliminates bad bacteria.

If you have more questions, come into the store at **380 West Main Street** and talk to our experts.