



#### WINTER

Keep a hole in the ice so that gas exchange can occur. This allows oxygen to get into the water and carbon dioxide to leave the water. A floating pond deicer is recommended for this purpose. Do not try to break through ice with a hammer. Pounding on the ice can injure the fish.

### SPRING

- Remove dead foliage from the pond.
- If you need to change the water in your pond, remove only ¼ of the total volume of water in the pond at a time. This can be done every other day until all the water has been replaced. Add chlorine remover and heavy metal remover at this time.
- Watch for increasing ammonia levels as water temperature rises in the pond. If ammonia increases, add an ammonia removing product to the pond.
- Add Pond Zyme® to remove pond sludge, such as dead leaves and fish waste.
- Apply Stress Coat<sup>®</sup> to restore the slime layer, which is a natural protective coating that fish have to protect themselves.
- Start feeding fish when water temperature is 50 degrees or above.
- Fertilize all water plants in the spring, using either a liquid or a pellet form of fertilizer.
- Use Accu Clear™ if algae bloom occurs.

# SUMMER

- Feed fish in the pond.
- Fertilize water plants once a month.
- Check the pH and the ammonia levels twice a month.

# FALL

- Reduce feeding of fish.
- Stop feeding fish when water temperature drops below 50 degrees.
- Remove dying foliage. Cut the foliage back to pot level.
- Cover the pond with pond net to prevent leaves from falling into the pond.

MERRIFIELD 8132 Lee Highway Merrifield, VA 22116

703-560-6222

FAIR OAKS 12101 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030 703-968-9600 GAINESVILLE 6895 Wellington Road Gainesville, VA 20156 703-368-1919

### merrifieldgardencenter.com