



Easy Winter

POND CARE

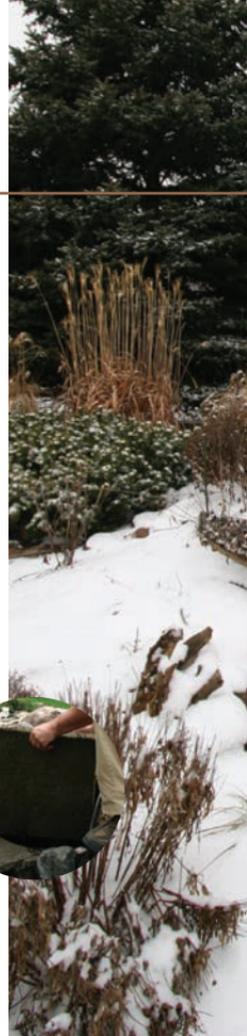




Velvety white snow and silvery ice formations transform a pond and waterfall into a dreamy scene that nearly replicates the magic of Christmas. During the frosty winter months, you can either leave your pond running and enjoy its icy beauty, or you can choose to shut your water feature down until springtime. 🧡

SHUTTING YOUR POND DOWN FOR WINTER

Most people in Northern climes choose to turn off their pond and waterfalls for the winter. The first thing you'll want to do is remove your pump and store it in a frost-free location submersed in a bucket of water. The water around the pump housing helps prevent the seal on the pump from drying and cracking.





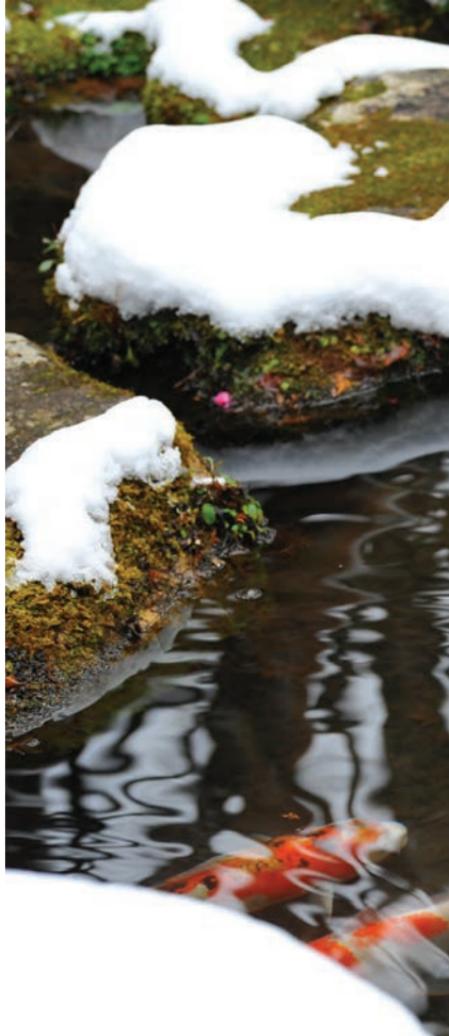
Learn more about biological pond filtration at
aquascapeinc.com/biofalls-filters

Next, remove the bags of biological media and filter mats from the BioFalls biological filter. Wash the media with water and store them in a garage or shed. Removing the filter media for winter makes your spring cleanout easier. 🌀



WHAT ABOUT THE FISH?

In the Northern part of the country, you might see your pond starting to ice over as early as November. Your fish should survive the winter, provided your pond is at least two feet deep and you keep a hole in the ice for exchange of gasses.





Larger fish need supplemental oxygen in the winter. To accomplish this, and assist with keeping a hole in the ice, add a submersible pump such as the Aquascape **AquaForce® Pump** on a pond shelf close to the water's surface. The water should not bubble more than one inch above the surface. The agitation will prevent the surface of the water from freezing in temperatures above 10 degrees.





Once winter temps drop below 10 degrees, you'll need the assistance of the Aquascape **300-Watt Pond De-Icer** to keep a hole open at the water's surface. Make sure the pump and de-icer are not placed right next to each other. The agitation from the pump will create warmer water and the de-icer won't function properly.

If ice has already formed across the entire surface of your pond, lay the de-icer on its side to melt a hole in the ice. Once the hole is large enough, rotate the de-icer so it's right side up, if it doesn't automatically right itself. 🌀





KEEPING YOUR POND AND WATERFALLS RUNNING

The advantage to keeping your water feature running during the winter, is that you'll enjoy the beauty of amazing ice sculptures around the waterfall. However, be advised that your pond might lose water due to evaporation during the winter months. Keep an eye on the water level and be prepared to top off the pond with water, as needed.

You might also find that ice build-up can create dams and force water outside of the pond. If this occurs, you can pour hot water over the ice build-up to melt it so water can flow freely. Avoid banging on the ice as the sound is amplified underwater and can stress your fish.

Finally, the flow of your waterfalls might not be enough to keep a hole in the ice during extreme temperature drops. Follow the same instructions mentioned earlier to keep a hole open in the pond's surface. 🌀





Visit our website for more information on
winter pond-keeping!

WATCH US ON YOUTUBE

Aquascape offers four YouTube channels to inspire and educate you on all things water gardening! Each Aquascape video channel serves a specific purpose to help guide water garden enthusiasts on their journey.

[Greg Wittstock, The Pond Guy](#)

I'm Greg Wittstock, The Pond Guy. A passionate pond hobbyist for 35 years, I established Aquascape, Inc. in 1991. Follow along as I meet incredible people, view beautiful water features, and share what it means to be Living the Aquascape Lifestyle™!

[Ed Beaulieu The Pond Professor](#)

Friends refer to me as “The Pond Professor” because I love to talk about the science behind ponds, waterfalls, and the environment. Subscribe to my channel and follow along as I share step-by-step instructions on how and why I build ecosystem ponds and water features the Aquascape way.



TEAM Aquascape

TEAM Aquascape features a first-hand look at Aquascape water feature installations as told by members of the Aquascape Construction team. Join us for informative vlogs that share a behind-the-scenes look at life as pond and waterfall builders in the Chicagoland area.

Aquascape Ponds

Find out everything you need to know about water gardening, and ecosystem ponds at aquascapeinc.com. We're the leading water garden features manufacturer and resource in North America.

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

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Our free quarterly digital magazine contains stunning photography and informative articles about water features that you won't find anywhere else.



Pondside Monthly

Sign up for Pondside Monthly, our free e-newsletter that's filled with great information and tips to help you along your water gardening journey.

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