

# Looking After Your Ponds and Water Features

Whether your pond is natural, man-made, decorative or commercial you are dealing with a complex eco-system that is susceptible to changes in in-flow, climate and aquatic lifeforms which heavily impact on the health of the water body.

In all eco-systems bacteria plays an important role in the breakdown and decay of organic matter that finds its way into the pond.

This organic matter can be composed of decaying vegetation, animal manure, fish excrement and decomposing animal carcasses. The decay of these components breaks down into an excess nutrient that is the food source for algae and other weeds.

Heavy seasonal rain also adds to the nutrient levels with the introduction of extra nitrogen. Algae blooms usually follow increases in temperature and/or heavy rainfall. Consider that inflow can be made up of silt, fertilizers and debris runoff after rain.

## HOW BACTERIA HELPS

**Pond Clean's** high concentrations of specially selected beneficial bacteria, uniquely blended with amino acids and an oxygenation agent to ensure high rates of biomass growth helps to control the balance in these sensitive eco-systems.

This rapid biomass growth is what gives **Pond Clean** the ability to quickly digest organic solids and reduces the nutrient levels in a pond and in turn this lessens the severity of algae strikes.

Working from the bottom up, **Pond Clean** consumes the nutrients that algae need to survive leaving natural and man-made ponds clean and clear. Traditional algacides merely poison the algae which then sinks to the bottom increasing the organic loading and severity of future blooms.

## A NATURAL SOLUTION

In ponds with heavy fish stock, sludge and an existing algae or floating weed problems, the bacteria will slowly digest the nutrients and waste from the water and outcompete the algae to the point of starvation. Once the algae has died, it will sink to the bottom to be slowly consumed by the bacteria. When the food source has been depleted the bacteria will die back to natural levels.

The reduction of nutrient levels also helps to control other weeds and pests that survive in nutrient high water bodies. e.g Duck Weed, and other floating pest vegetation. Reduction of nutrient levels will also help to control weeds like Azola (red fern) that take their nutrients from the air, however the treatment cycle can take up to 12 months.

The reduction of decaying organic matter can also help to floc the pond by reducing the amount of suspended solids floating in the water and allowing the heavier silt to drop to the bottom. In most cases there would be no need for expensive and harmful chemical flocculants.

## ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE

**Pond Clean** is a proven, environmentally safe solution for your pond cleaning. The product will not harm fish, frogs, birds, animals and other aquatic life, or plants with roots extending into the soil. With no machinery based environmental disruption, it is perfect for cleaning lined, natural, concrete and plastic ponds.

See over for our products that help keep the balance in your pond or water feature.

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DAM, A POND OR A WATER FEATURE/FOUNTAIN

### DAMS

The depth of water in a dam often means a reduction in oxygen at the bottom which slows the natural bacterial eco-system. Dams are often still, colder water with little light at the lower levels. Dams take longer to clean, often having accumulated years of sludge and debris. **Dams need larger but less frequent doses.**

### PONDS

Often shallow, with natural or artificial aeration. Warmer in temperature, and higher light levels. Ponds normally have a more balanced eco-system and sludge levels should be less than a dam. However, if overstocked with fish or other marine life, nutrient levels can be very high. **Ponds need smaller but more frequent doses.**

### WATER FEATURE/FOUNTAIN

Generally smaller in volume and little natural eco-system except for algae. Very shallow and very warm which promotes algae growth more frequently and for longer periods of the year.

**Water Features and Fountains need frequent doses and can be overdosed if an eco-system is not required.**

### DOSAGE

Pond Clean works best when delivered in correct doses according to the size of your water body. The calculation is as easy as finding (in meters) the width (W), the length (L) and then the depth at the deepest point (D) of your body of water:

$$(W) \times (L) \times (D) \times .45 = \text{Volume} \times 1,000 \text{ litres}$$

**Small Pond Clean** comes in (4 Bags), (10 Bags) or (20 Bags). Useful for small ponds and water features. The 100gm water soluble bags will treat up to 200Lt but can be cut open and dispensed teaspoon at a time for smaller water features.

**Large Pond Clean** comes in (4 Bags), (10 Bags), (20 Bags) and (40 Bags). The 100gm water soluble bags will treat up to 10,000Lt for larger bodies of water.

**NOTE: THE MORE SLOWLY THE PROCESS WORKS, THE LONGER THE CLEANING EFFECT WILL LAST.**

**CAUTION: OVERDOSING TO GET A "FASTER RESULT" WILL ONLY DEplete OXYGEN LEVELS IN THE WATER WHICH MAY RESULT IN FISH KILL AND LOWER WATER QUALITY.**

## HOW SOON WILL I SEE RESULTS?

Depending on the severity of the algae bloom or density of the sludge, you should start to see dead algae starting to clump together on the surface of the water within 3-7 days. It will look worse before it starts looking better! But, this is only the first step in the process of naturally depleting the excess nutrients from the water that is causing the problem. A soft broom can dislodge any dead matter clinging to the sides of the pond dropping decaying matter to the bottom where the bacteria is digesting the sludge. To improve the aesthetics of smaller ponds, the black sludge at the bottom can be siphoned off taking care not to empty the pond completely. When algae starts to cling again it will be time to redose.

**SEPTIC SCIENCE**

*Good Bacteria At Work*

[www.septicscience.com.au](http://www.septicscience.com.au)  
1300 991 948

# WHAT TO USE IN YOUR POND OR WATER FEATURE



**Pond Clean Small** contains beneficial bacteria for use in cleaning and maintaining small ponds and water features/fountains. The friendly bacteria eats away any organic matter, suspended solids, sludge and other chemicals until the water is pH-neutral and algae free leaving the water condition excellent for fish and aquatic life or just clear and clean.

By using Small Pond Clean regularly, the bacterial activity will keep algae growth under control. Safe for fish, animals and aquatic life. It comes in 100g soluble bags that treat up to 200Lt per bag and will dilute easily and safely when in contact with water.

**DOSAGE:** 1 x 100gm bag per 200Lt. Can be dispensed in smaller amounts by cutting open the bag. Keep remaining product dry until use. Redose when algae or fish waste becomes evident again. Water features that do not require an eco-system can be overdosed to discourage natural eco-system growth.

**Pond Clean Large** contains high concentrations of powerful beneficial bacteria for use in cleaning and maintaining larger ponds. The friendly bacteria eats away any organic matter, suspended solids, sludge and other chemicals until the water is pH-neutral and algae free leaving the water condition excellent for fish, frogs, other aquatic life, plants and animals or just clear and clean. Effective in the control or eradication of floating weeds like Duck Weed, Frogbit etc. More substantial weeds like salvinia and azola (red fern) may require longer treatment. **DO NOT OVERDOSE to get a faster result as this may cause oxygen depletion impacting on aquatic life.**

**DOSAGE:** 1 x 100gm bag per 10,000Lt. Can be dispensed in smaller amounts by cutting open the bag. Keep remaining product dry until use. Redose when algae or fish waste becomes evident again. Large ponds/water features that do not require an eco-system can be overdosed to discourage natural eco-system growth.

The chemical free way to keep ponds clear and clean!

For larger or deeper bodies of water try...

# DAM CLEAN



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## Controls Algae Reduces Sludge!

# SMALL POND CLEAN



Small Pond:  
4x100gm  
10x100gm  
20x100gm

100gm Bag treats up to 200Lt

# LARGE POND CLEAN



Large Pond:  
4x100gm  
10x100gm  
20x100gm  
40x100gm

100gm Bag treats over 10,000Lt