GREEN WATER, CLOUDY WATER WHAT SHOULD I DO?

When a pond is first set up the water is crystal clear. As fish and plants are introduced into the pond, almost instantly a serene and natural-looking environment is created. Over time however, water can become murky. The murky conditions can be caused by suspended sediment or algae blooms. As debris builds up in the pond from falling leaves, fish waste, decaying plants and algae the water quality degrades and water clarity worsen. Let's take a look at water clarity problems and methods to correct them.

Algae blooms appear as pea-green soup or filamentous mats that can float to the surface, also called Blanket Weed. Algae blooms develop when there is an excessive amount of nutrients. This usually occurs in the spring prior to plant growth or anytime there are excess nutrients in the water. String algae grows throughout the year but often becomes more noticeable in early summer as water temperature increases. Excessive phosphate and nitrate are two of the major components contributing to algae growth. These nutrients can come from tap water, rain runoff, fish waste and debris. A proper balance in your pond between fish and aquatic plants help your pond water stay clear, depriving the algae of excessive nutrients.

One easy way to control algae in ponds is through the addition of algaecides like PondCare ALGAEFIX or MICROBIAL ALGAE CLEAN. Algaecides control and reduce algae growth. In fountains and ponds AlgaeFix can be used to control and discourage the growth of both green water and string algae. AlgaeFix provides effective treatment for existing algae blooms and to control string algae. In a planted pond when green water and prevent is an issue the use of MICROBIAL ALGAE CLEAN with a patented bacterial strain is a great way to work with the pond's natural ecosystem to control green water algae. Use ALGAEFIX or MICROBIAL ALGAE CLEAN regularly to keep the pond water crystal clear.

An additional way to control the growth of algae floating in the water is with ultra-violet irradiation more commonly called a UV clarifier. UV clarifiers destroy the algae cells that flow through the unit promoting clearer water and increased visibility. UV clarifiers can only work on green water algae but will not control string algae or the actual root causes of algae or the actual root causes of algae; the nutrient it is thriving on.

Water clarity can also be affected by sediment or debris that is floating in the pond. The small particles associated with this type of problem are so fine that the filter can not trap them. Flocculating products like PondCare ACCU-CLEAR and SIMPLY CLEAR quickly clumps together or flocculates these tiny particles and allows them to settle to the bottom of the pond or be removed by the filter. Polyester Pre-Filter Pads work great in your filter to remove the particles that have been clumped together. When trying to clear any cloud in your pond, make sure your pond is well aerated. ACCU-CLEAR or SIMPLY CLEAR can be used again if the clouding condition reappears until your filter has a chance to remove it. ACCU-CLEAR helps keep pond filters working at maximum efficiency and quickly restores your pond water to a crystal clear condition.

Organic material such as fish waste, plant fragments, excess fish food, and dead algae accumulates in all garden ponds. As this organic sludge decomposes, it consumes oxygen and degrades water quality. Natural occurring bacteria cannot consume the organic sludge fast enough to control its accumulation. Enzymatic pond cleaners like PondCare POND-ZYME with BARLEY or ECOFIX contains beneficial enzyme-producing bacteria. Adding these beneficial bacteria will speed up the digestion of organic pond sludge, fish waste and other debris in your pond, reducing pond maintenance and keeping pond water clean and clear.

Keeping pond water clear not only adds to the appearance of the pond but, more importantly, creates a healthy environment for both fish and plants.

If you have any questions consult your PondCare Retailer
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