

Seasonal Pond and Lake Tips

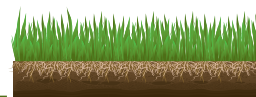
Due to the mild winter that we have had, Clearwater Pond and Lake Management recommends the following:

- Visual inspection of the water surface. Look for signs of algae. If it was a problem last year it will be this year too. Lemna minor (common duckweed) will give you a carpet of green. If ignored it will kill off everything below the surface and will turn the water stagnant – action must be taken;
- Look at the marginal plants; thypha rush, lesser reed mace and irises all need attention. Removal, cutting back, thinning dividing and re-planting should be considered;
- Look at the oxygenating weed in the watercourse, lake or pond. What type is it? Oxygenators play an important role in the whole system, but some are invasive, taking over the entire body of water. Active management is then paramount!
- Look into the water. What lives below gives a good indication of the water quality e.g. newts, frogs, snakes, dragonfly lava, water voles;
- Fountain and aeration pumps should be removed, cleaned and serviced as they can be very costly to replace should they fail at a critical time;
- Some types of aquatic weed can require chemical treatments and this is the time to have it carried out;
- Removal of leaf mulch from the water surface helps control silt build-up. De-silting can be expensive;
- Filling any pond or lake with mains water will likely increase algae blooms;
- Inspect all inlets and outlets for blockages and damage – repair;
- Inspect the sides and banks for erosion - consider the impact this may have.

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The Soil Harmony process - five steps to soil health

Our tried and tested, systematic approach naturally divides into several stages:

- 1** Soil Health Check - thorough analysis to determine the exact status of your soil.
- 2** Nutrient Balancing and detoxification - to correct any deficiencies, breakdown of toxic elements such as pesticides and excess chemical fertilisers and to bring to moderate pH.
- 3** Aeration - a surprising proportion of sports turf suffers from compacting, reducing the amount of beneficial aerobic microbes in the soil.
- 4** Soil Life Inoculation combining carbon based feeds, to stimulate beneficial bacteria into action where sufficient aerobic microbe activity is present or...
Microbe Inoculation using carefully formulated bacteria, fungi and nutrients to increase and stimulate the population of beneficial aerobic microbes.
- 5** Regular feeding of soil and bacteria to maintain the new status quo.

The end result...

An empowered root zone in harmony with the plants it supports results in:

- Healthy vibrant sports turf.
- Better tolerance of wear, temperature and stress.
- Uniform and defined colour.
- Reduced reliance on pesticides.
- Increased pay back for the Soil Harmony client.