

of the bacteria will survive to re-seed and jump start the filter the following season. Always perform a backwash and rinse cycle after the filter has been sitting idle, even for a few days. This will clear any septic waste that has formed while the filter was off.

Q: If we medicate our pond, and use the RECIRCULATE mode to bypass the filter, will the medicine not kill the bacteria in the filter, once we return the filter to the regular filter position?

A: Most medications biodegrade or evaporate at different rates during and after treatments. Depending on the medication used, it is always advisable to make at least a 50% water change after a medical treatment. If it is not cost prohibitive, due to having to replace thousands of gallons of water, a 80% water change is ideal. A 50 to 80% water change will greatly reduce any hazardous effect that a medication might have on your filter, with few exceptions. Even if your filter is exposed to most medications, it will only suffer a temporary slump for a couple of days. Beneficial bacterias reproduce by the billions per day, and it doesn't take long to re-establish a healthy colony.

Q: Does an Aquadyne require the use of a lot of water to backwash the filter.

A: I love this question! Not that I am going to tell you that it only takes a cup full. But rather to illustrate the all important water change that most people never provide for their fish. By appropriate measure, each different size of Aquadyne filter requires different amounts of water to perform a cleaning cycle. I am going to first say that each system requires less water to backwash than you should already be draining to give your fish a fresh drink. To put it simply, you should always change at least 10% of your pond water each week, filter or no filter. Fresh water is loaded with minerals and elements that are critical for your fishes physical health. By comparison, we too need the minerals and elements that are in water, so that our bodies can remain healthy and nourished. If you do not perform periodic water changes the fish will absorb all of the available minerals and there will be none left to continue supplementing their health. Remember how our bodies need calcium, iron, magnesium, zinc, etc. Fish are no different. Typically, you will only loose an inch or two of water from your during a backwash cycle. That will likely represent only a 5% water change, so it will not hurt to be a little generous and use a little extra water during a backwash, your fish will appreciate it.

Thank you for your indulgence, as I am quite aware that I have taken up more than a few minutes of your time in reading about our "Life Support Systems" for ponds. Hopefully you can at least appreciate how important filtration really is, and that if a truly great system is within your budget, you should at least get what you pay for, and also that just any filter will not do. I cringe at what I see being sold to consumers on the market, today, all in the name of "We have the best filter that you can buy". That is why you will never see that statement in any of our advertising or promotions.

Even if you choose not to purchase an Aquadyne filter at this time, This literature is packed full of information and concepts that are vital to the success of a healthy pond that many of our competitors would rather we not expose. Koi Camp Aquariology is a people company and not focused just on the bottom line. We strive to be concerned for your success in pond keeping. We are here, and available daily to prove it. Remember, I have stood in your shoes and scratched my head much as you are doing now, wondering which way to go next. If you think that we may be able to help you, do not hesitate to drop us a line.

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