



Pond Management Calendar

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Whether used for irrigation, swimming or fishing, ponds require regular maintenance to retain their original characteristic and function. No two ponds are alike and should not be managed as if they are; the overall management of a pond may require the integration of several different management programs.

A successful pond management program will include the following essentials:

- Pond & Watershed Management - Proper pond construction/renovation and management of surrounding watershed.*
- Water Management - Basic understanding and manipulation of the physical and chemical components of this third dimension necessary to support life.*
- Crop Management- Balancing of fish populations through renovations, stocking, and harvesting.*
- Pest Management- Control of those unwanted visitors to the pond.*

A "good" pond is like anything else in the landscape: it does not just happen, with regular attention (and sometimes considerable time and effort), it can become productive and beautiful.

The following is a calendar of when typical management practices are implemented for ponds in Maryland. It should be noted that not all practices are preformed on a yearly basis, for more information on each contact your local Sea Grant Extension or Cooperative Extension office.

	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
Pond and Watershed Management				
Construction/Renovation		[Yellow bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		
Drawdown	[Yellow bar: Plant control]		[Yellow bar: Renovation]	
Watershed Plantings		[Yellow bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		
Water Management				
Fertilization Program		[Blue bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		
Soil testing/Liming	[Blue bar]			[Blue bar]
Oxygen Monitoring		[Blue bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		
Crop Management				
Renovation			[Red bar]	
Bream Stocking				[Red bar]
Largemouth Bass Stocking		[Red bar]		
Harvest		[Red bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		
Population Balance Check			[Red bar]	
Pest Management				
Aquatic Weed Control		[Green bar spanning Spring, Summer, and Fall]		

