

Introducing Fish to Your Pond



Float the Bag- The temperature of the water in the bag is different than the temperature in your pond. Float the bag for at least 15 minutes before releasing your fish.



Minimize Water Mixing- Stressed fish excrete greater levels of waste (ammonia), so the water in the transport bag should *not* be added to your pond. Also, do not add pond water to the bag water as it can rapidly increase the bag water's pH (higher pH increases ammonia's toxicity) and lead to fish death.



New Fish Jump- Be aware that the stress of moving fish can cause them to jump, so it may be helpful to cover your pond with a net for a few days or lower the pond's water levels when adding new fish.



New Fish Hide- It sometimes takes new fish a few days to come out of hiding. Give them some time to adjust to their new surroundings.



Add a Few at a Time- Do not add too many fish at once. Add a few at a time, and be sure that all of the water tests are fine before adding more (about a month apart).



Test the Water Often- It is very important to monitor water quality, especially when adding new fish to your pond. The most important tests are for ammonia, nitrites, and pH.