



WINTERIZATION GUIDE FOR PONDS

A guide to shutting down—or running strong—when the temperatures drop.



INTERACTIVE

 Click to navigate to a page or scroll through

Start Here **3** Winter Pond Considerations



4 US Average Low Temperature Map



5 Winterizing vs. Running Your Pond in Winter



6 Keeping Your System Running



7 Winterization (Shutting Down)



8 RPS Solar Product Guide



9 Spring Startup Guide



10 Reviews From Your Neighbors



11 Why go with RPS?



12 Contact and Resources

Winter Pond Considerations

Do I shut things down, or keep 'em running? The answer's a little different for everyone, depending on your pond and your weather.

- **Your Climate Counts:** If you live where winters are mild, you might be able to let your fountain or aerator run all year. But in spots that freeze hard, ice can build up and cause trouble for pumps or lines.
- **Fish or Just for Looks?** If you've got fish, keeping oxygen in the water is real important through the cold months. Aeration helps stop gases from getting trapped under the ice. If your pond's just for show, shutting things down might be the easier way to go.
- **Protect Your Gear:** Pumps and diffusers can handle a lot, but freezing temps are tough on equipment. Deciding now whether to winterize or keep things running will save you headaches later.

Keep in Mind: There may be sharp dips in temperature that are sometimes unpredictable. Make sure you stay up on seasonal storms and cold spells to protect your system if need be,



US Average Low Temperature Map



Winterizing vs. Running Your Pond in Winter

“Not sure whether to shut down or keep your system running? Here’s a quick comparison of the pros and cons to help you choose the best approach for your pond this winter.”

Approach	Best For	Benefits	Things to Watch
Winterizing (Shut Down)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very cold climates with long freezes • Seasonal/ornamental ponds • Owners who travel in winter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects equipment from freeze damage • Lower maintenance during harsh months • Extends pump and diffuser lifespan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond will freeze over • Fish may need extra support (de-icer or heater) • No visual water movement
Running with a Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild to moderate winters • Ponds for aesthetic enjoyment • Owners who want winter water features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains open water patches • Winter beauty and sound of flowing water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice buildup around splash zone • Less solar power in short days • Pump must remain fully submerged
Running with an Aerator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish ponds in cold regions • Ponds that need oxygen exchange year-round • Owners focused on fish health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevents toxic gas build-up under ice • Keeps small openings in ice for oxygen exchange • Helps fish survive winter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffusers must be shallow to avoid supercooling • Check lines for ice blockages

Keeping Your System Running

Solar Fountains

Step 1: Check Local Climate

- Fountains can run in mild winters where water doesn't freeze solid.
- In colder climates, expect partial freezing and be prepared for reduced flow.

Step 2: Protect the Pump

- Keep the pump fully submerged to prevent ice damage.
- Move it to a deeper part of the pond where water freezes last.

Step 3: Monitor Ice Formation

- Ice may form around the splash zone. Clear ice build-up to avoid damage to nozzles and basins.
- A small pond heater or de-icer can help keep water flowing freely.

Step 4: Solar Power Adjustments.

- Keep panels free of snow and positioned for maximum sun exposure.

Solar Aerators

Step 1: Use a Shallow Setup

- Move diffusers closer to the surface in winter. This prevents deep mixing, which can supercool water and stress fish.
- Keep bubbles breaking the surface to maintain an open hole in the ice.

Step 2: Protect the Pump

- Your compressor is sheltered in a RPS's weather-resistant enclosure and can remain outside in moderate freezes but you may consider covering it

Step 3: Manage Snow & Ice

- A small open patch is enough for oxygen exchange. Don't worry about keeping the whole pond ice-free.
- Avoid breaking ice with force — instead, rely on aeration to maintain an opening.

Step 4: Fish Health

- Aeration prevents toxic gas build-up under ice, which is vital for ponds with fish.
- Avoid over-aerating in extremely cold weather to keep deeper water stable for overwintering fish.

Winterization (Shutting Down)

Solar Fountains

Step 1: Shut Down the System

- Turn off the fountain pump and disconnect it from the DC Disconnect. Remove the pump from the water to prevent ice damage.
- Disconnect the MC4 connectors on solar panels from the DC Disconnect.

Step 2: Drain & Clean

- Drain any water from pump, float and nozzles.
- Clean away algae, mineral deposits, and debris that can harden over winter.

Step 3: Store Components Indoors

- Store the pump, wires, float and nozzles in a dry, frost-free location.

Step 4: Protect Solar Panels

- Leave panels mounted outdoors if secure, but disconnect leads and cover with cardboard and a tarp to prevent ice and water damage.
- Clean surfaces before winter for better spring performance.

Solar Aerators

Step 1: Power Down

- Disconnect the MC4 connectors on solar panels from the controller and turn the system off.

Step 2: Remove Air Lines & Diffusers

- Pull diffusers from the pond before freeze.
- Coil and store airline tubing indoors or in a shed.

Step 3: Protect the Compressor & Controller

- Your Controller and Compressor are safe inside RPS's weatherproof enclosure all winter long.

Step 4: Protect Solar Panels

- Leave panels mounted outdoors if secure, but disconnect leads and cover with cardboard and a tarp to prevent ice and water damage.
- Clean surfaces before winter for better spring performance.

RPS AIR-ATION KITS



Plug-and-Play solar pond aerators that keep water fresh and fish healthy.

- Models: AIR200, AIR400, AIR800, AIR1200
- Kit Includes: Solar panels, air compressor, controller, weather-proof enclosure, weighted air hose, weighted diffusers, hose, wiring
- Best For: Ponds (up to 15 ft), algae control, boosting oxygen in stocked fish ponds

[VIEW ALL POND PRODUCTS »](#)

RPS FOUNTAIN KITS



High-output solar fountains that aerate while adding beauty.

- Models: F200, F400, F800, F1600, F2200, F3000
- Kit Includes: Solar panels, DC disconnect, stainless steel pump, floating ring, intake filter, fountain nozzles, safety rope, solar wire
- Best For: Decorative ponds, community or HOA features, livestock ponds needing circulation

Spring Startup Guide

When the thaw finally comes and days start getting longer, it's time to wake your pond system back up. Here's how to get things running smooth again:

Check the Pond First: Look over your water level, clear out any leftover leaves or debris, and make sure the pond's ready for moving water.

Inspect Equipment: Pull out pumps, diffusers, and lines you stored for winter. Give everything a once-over for cracks, wear, or critters that may have made a home inside.

Clean Solar Panels: Dust, pollen, or grime from winter storms can cut down power. Wipe them off so they're catching as much sun as possible.

Reinstall Carefully: Put pumps and diffusers back where they belong. If you shifted your aerator diffusers shallow for winter, move them back deeper for summer use.

Start Slow: Fire up the system on a sunny day and let it run a few hours. This way, you can spot any leaks, odd noises, or weak spray before you're counting on it full-time.

Watch the Fish: If you keep fish, check how they're acting as the system kicks back in. Healthy, active fish are the best sign your pond's in good shape.



5-Star Reviews From Your Neighbors

Across the country, pond owners are transforming their water with RPS Solar Aerators and Fountains. From ranch ponds to community lakes, our customers are seeing clearer water, healthier fish, and reduced algae—all powered by the sun. Here's what they have to say in your region:



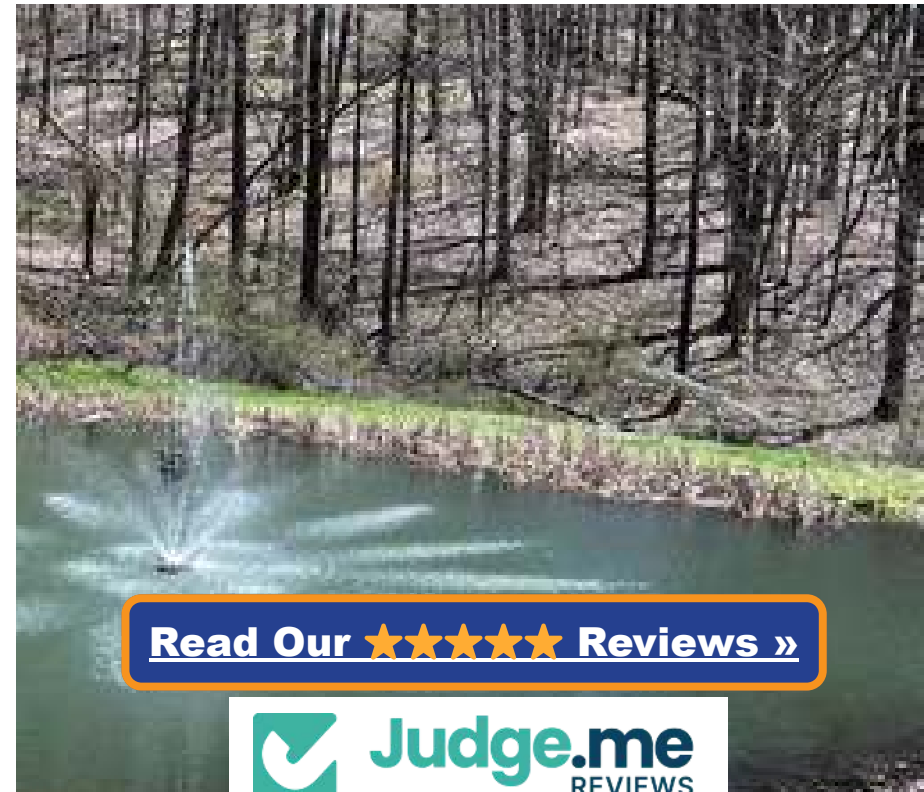
"Our cattle pond used to turn bright green by July, and we lost fish almost every summer. We installed an **AIR1200** and the difference was night and day. The water stays clearer and it runs all day long under the desert sun without costing us a dime in electricity." - **Stanley, TX**



"Since we got the fountain, we don't get near the mosquitoes we used to. The water's always moving now and it looks real nice too. Makes sitting out by the pond in the evenings a whole lot better." - **Karen, GA**



"The **AIR800** has made a big difference in our fish pond. The water's clearer, the fish are more active, and we haven't had any issues with low oxygen since installing it. It's been well worth it."—**Mike, KS**



[Read Our ★★★★★ Reviews »](#)





America's #1 Most Trusted in Pond Care

Friendly, U.S.-Based Customer Service

No call centers, no commissions—just real people who know ponds. Our U.S.-based team gives friendly, knowledgeable support from sizing to troubleshooting, so you're never on your own.

Reliable Products Built to Last

RPS systems are designed for long-term performance with brushless motors, durable parts, and solar technology you can trust. From backyard ponds to large lakes, customers count on RPS for dependable aeration and fountains.

Thousands of 5-Star Reviews

Across all 50 states, pond owners choose RPS for clear water, healthy fish, and no power bills. Thousands of 5-star reviews highlight both our products and our customer-first service.

Backed by Warranty & Real Support

Every system comes with an industry-leading 2-year warranty plus live phone support whenever you need it. With RPS, you're choosing more than equipment—you're choosing a trusted partner.



GET YOUR PRODUCT RECOMMENDATION!

Still not quite sure what you need for your pond?

Take our online sizing quiz and get your **FREE** product recommendation (5 minute quiz)

[TAKE OUR SIZING QUIZ »](#)

RATHER A FRIENDLY VOICE?

Give our friendly U.S. Based Pump Specialists a call for a comprehensive look at your system needs and preferences!

 **GIVE US A CALL!**

[888-637-4493 »](tel:888-637-4493)



40250 County Road 27
Woodland, CA 95776
shop.rpssolarpumps.com

[888-637-4493](tel:888-637-4493)

LEARN MORE

