

## 5 Tips for Healthier Pond Water

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Snails help reduce fungus, which makes a healthier pond environment. "Plant health begins with maintaining good water quality and a healthy, balanced diet," said Rip Sokol, president of Fourth Generation Nursery in Mendon, Mass. Faithfully following these steps will keep customers' ponds healthier this spring and blooming into fall, he said. Lucky No. 7. Begin by maintaining a pH close to 7. Get moving. Avoid letting the water become stagnate. Idle water becomes a breeding ground for disease and insects. Promote viability. Plant health begins with maintaining good water quality. You want water that maintains a feasible organic microbe population. Fertilize in moderation. Moderate, routine use of fertilizer tablets help plants to grow robust and overpower any disease that might otherwise kill a weak, unhealthy plant. Additional micro-nutrients used in moderation can increase plant health. Send in snails. Japanese trapdoor snails work as a preventive method for reducing fungus and indicate oxygen level. When oxygen-deprived, the snails come to the pond surface, which indicates to pond owners that a problem with the pond's oxygen levels exists.