

# Water Plant Care

## A Garden Guide

### Repotting, Transplanting, and Dividing

Water plants should be inspected on a yearly basis, and repotted if necessary. The containers we sell plants in here at Reems Creek are sufficient for your plants for a year or so, and are designed to be easy to transport. Upgrading to a more suitable larger or mesh pot will encourage proper root development, allow for proper water flow, and easier nutrient uptake for your plants. A main cause of perennial pond plants not coming back in the spring is root rot caused by confined roots in too small of a container. The best repotting medium would be aquatic plant soil with some addition of loam or clay. **Do not use regular potting soil.**



### Fertilization

Water plants should be fertilized a couple of times during the growing season with aquatic plant tabs. The exceptions are water lilies and lotus, which need to be fertilized every 3 or 4 weeks from April to September.

### Water Plant Depth

Bog, and marginal plants like to be about 2 to 6" below the surface. Some marginal plants used to soften the edge of the pond can grow in and even around the outside of the pond, adding to a more natural look. Optimum depth for water lilies & lotus is about 12", maximum is about 24". Submerged or oxygenating plants like Anacharis and parrots feather can be attached to rocks or allowed to float freely. They're good for water quality, providing oxygen, and for spawning fish and fry.

### Lighting Requirements

Most water plants require a minimum of 5 to 6 hours of direct sun daily. Full sun is necessary for maximum blooming and growth. This is especially true for water lilies and lotus.

Here are a few plants that can take some shade:

Forget-Me-Nots  
Marsh Marigold

Water Lily Varieties:  
Indiana

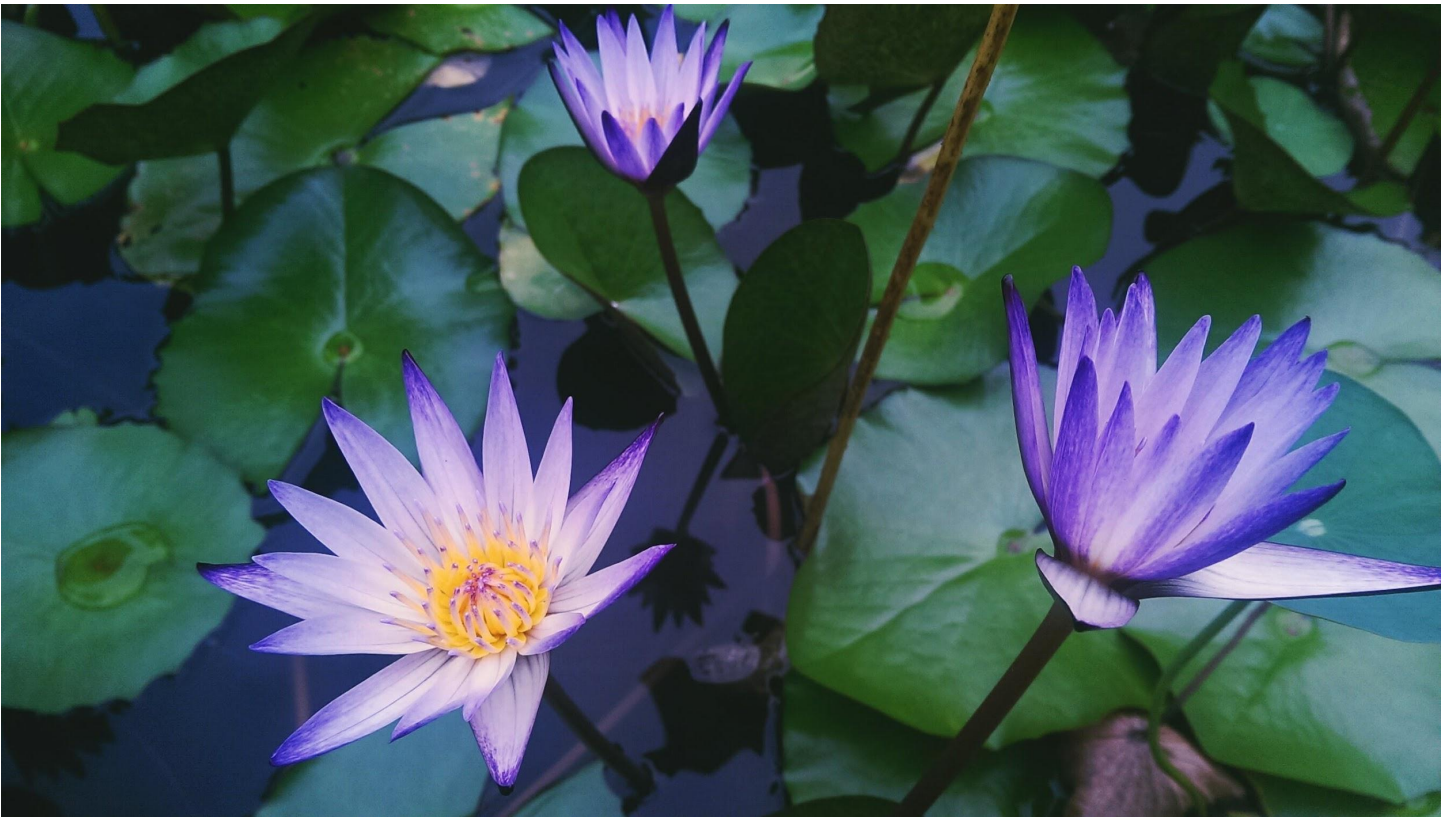
Pennywort  
Water Clover  
Water Celery  
Water Arum

Chromatella  
Vesuve

## Winterizing Your Plants

Perennial plants should be cut back and placed in the deepest part of your pond, where they will go dormant and accompany your fish for the winter.

Don't fertilize after September 1<sup>st</sup>.



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