



Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association Ltd  
*The voice of the ornamental fish industry*

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Ponds are a great addition to any garden providing a haven for wildlife and offering a real treat for the senses. And a few simple safety tips will help you enjoy your water feature for years to come.

## **Pond Safety Points**

### **General**

- ▶ Young Children must ALWAYS be supervised when they are close to any open water - be it garden pond, swimming pool, river, stream or lake.
- ▶ Children under three are at particular risk because they are still unsteady on their feet.
- ▶ Grills/covers can be bought to provide either temporary or permanent cover.
- ▶ Hands should be washed after putting them in ponds, and before eating, drinking or smoking.
- ▶ Shallow shelving or marshy edges can be incorporated into the design so that there is no easy access to deep water.
- ▶ Shrubs and plants can be used to make access to the pond difficult for youngsters.
- ▶ Customers and prospective buyers should be encouraged to seek advice from an OATA approved dealer before making any decision regarding the installation of a pond so that expert advice can be given from the start.

### **Electricity**

- ▶ Equipment should be installed by a competent electrician. The more complex the installation, the greater competence required.
- ▶ Where necessary waterproof unions, of the appropriate type should be used. OATA retailers/pond consultants may provide advice as requested.
- ▶ Cables and equipment should be checked regularly. Repairs or replacements should be carried out as soon as a fault is detected.
- ▶ Circuit breakers can provide life-saving protection.
- ▶ All electrical items should be switched off if any maintenance or repair is undertaken.

### **Chemicals**

- ▶ Pond treatments all carry labels giving detailed instruction on its safe use and handling. When using pond treatments, the label should be carefully read and understood before proceeding. This will ensure that both you and your fish are safe.
- ▶ All chemicals should be kept out of the reach of young children at all times.



# MAKE YOUR POND SAFE!

Young children should always be supervised when near open water of any kind.

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