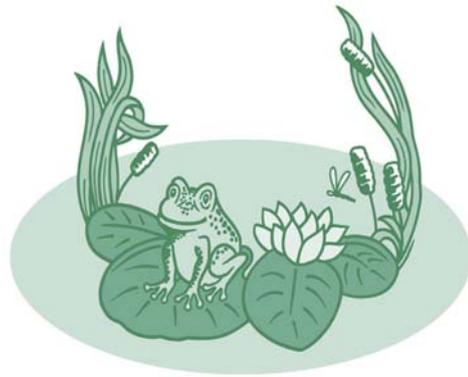


# Woodlands Nurseries

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## WATERFALLS

While a waterfall is not necessary to the balance of a pond (plants and fish can exist happily without moving water), the addition of a waterfall or stream enhances the look of a pond and adds fresh oxygen to the water; this is hugely beneficial especially in hot or sultry weather. Running the waterfall at night is more important than in the daytime, as while plants give off oxygen during the day the reverse is the case during the night therefore depleting the water of oxygen.

### Construction

It cannot be emphasised strongly enough that the waterfall must be waterproof. The amount of water lost in evaporation on a warm summer day can drop the water level in a pond by up to two centimetres, splashing on to warm rocks can increase this to unacceptable levels.

### Preformed units

There are now quite a variety of units available, some are made to resemble stone and are available in a number of shapes, sizes and materials. All need a solid base to work on and are laid starting from the pool or reservoir and going up the bank.

### Concrete

While still used it is not as popular due to the amount of labour it entails and unless done well it can look stark. When built most people use butyl or p.v.c liner as a waterproof membrane.

### Liner and stone

While the most satisfactory in the long run, this method takes the most skill to produce. The size, design and materials are your choice but the aim is to mimic nature, as with a pond if you can see the liner you have failed!

The liner acts as a waterproof membrane, once in place the art is to camouflage it as naturally as possible. Measure it as you would a stair carpet with allowance for pleats, be generous with the size - it is easier to cut off than glue on! While most sheets are in one piece sometimes it can be easier to work in pieces joining on the vertical.

Many natural watercourses are continuous but when the pump is not working the effect can be unsightly, allow for a number of rock pools that will retain water at all times adding to the interest.

### Flow rate

The flow rate is the amount of water that flows down the stream/waterfall that is acceptable to you, and while we can recommend the volume that has traditionally been the standard this is not set in stone. To allow for a thin skin of water over the width of the waterfall the guide is 227 litres per 2.54 centimetres per hour (50 gallons per 1 inch per hour).