



# **Installation Instructions for Skimmers**



Prelude Up to 30 GPM • 4" Opening

Thank you for purchasing the Eco-Series Waterfall Skimmer. You are about to experience the Eco-Series difference in water feature products, components that are simply designed for the home owner. The simple designs of all Eco-Series products provide you with reliable, trouble free installation and maintenance for all your water feature designs. Melody Up to 80 GPM • 6" Opening Ovation Up to 135 GPM • 10" Opening



#### **STEP ONE - DESIGN AND EXCAVATION**

Layout the pond. Position the skimmer opposite your waterfall for best skimming action, preferably in a corner where there will be extra liner.





Dig a pocket for the skimmer on the edge of the pond. Over dig the pocket by at least 4" in all directions to ensure plenty of room for the skimmer.



Level the pocket in all directions. Establish the water level for the pond, then the proper placement and height for the skimmer.

The skimmer should be set so the ideal water level is 1" below the top of the skimmer face plate window (see letter A). This allows for

fluctuation of the water up and down. These measurements are from the base of the skimmer, up to the surface water level. The measurements at right should be followed when excavating the pocket.



### **STEP TWO - INSTALLING LINER AND UNDERLAYMENT**

Before installing the underlayment, be sure to check over the pond bottom really well to get rid of any sharp rocks, sticks or any other object that could puncture the liner.

Carefully install the protective underlayment. Work the wrinkles out of the bottom of the pond. Lay folds flat against the side wall. Repeat for the liner. Again, work the wrinkles out of the pond floor. Lay the liner neatly in the pocket for the skimmer.



#### **STEP THREE - INSTALLING THE SKIMMER**



Set the Eco-Series skimmer in the pocket. Double check to make sure it is level in all directions.

Stack a few courses of stones up the front of the skimmer to lock it in place and prevent movement during the backfilling process.



Fold the liner and underlayment back towards the pond, to reveal the void spaces created when digging the skimmer pocket. Backfill around the skimmer with soil in 4" to 6" increments. Compact the soil around the skimmer using the end of the shovel or a 2 x4.





**STEP FOUR - FINISHING UP** 



Finish stacking stones up the front of the skimmer. Place the stones on the horizontal ledges to help lock in the skimmer. Use stone to conceal the skimmer door opening.

Hook up the check valve assembly to the pump and install the pump in the skimmer. Hook up the flex pipe to the check valve assembly. Install the filter mat divider and the leaf basket into the skimmer. Plug the pump into a GFCI protected outlet. Place the cover on top, and enjoy.



## HOW IT WORKS...

Pond maintenance begins and ends at the skimmer. 90% of debris is wind blown or falls from trees.

Capturing surface debris before it becomes water logged and settles to the bottom of the pond lessens clean-outs, eliminates decomposing matter, lightens the load on your Bio filter, keeps water clearer and prevents discolored water. A surface skimmer helps eliminate area's where diseases, anaerobic bacterias and pathogens thrive.



Pre-filter pad traps small debris

Submersible pump

#### SKIMMER MAINTENANCE



Shut off pump prior to cleaning skimmer. Remove the cover to expose the clean out area.



Empty the leaf basket on a weekly basis, more often if needed. In the Fall, skimmer may need to be cleaned daily. Leaf basket must stay clean to allow water into pump to prevent overheating the pump.



Spray out the leaf basket to get rid of decomposed material



Slowly lift out the filter mat. Do this slowly and carefully to retain the most debris on the mat.



Spray off the filter mat. Do not rinse 100% clean, you want to leave the some bacteria on the mat.



Add a maintenance dose of bacteria to help seed the skimmer mat.



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