STONE & WATER WORLD

Nitrogen Cycle

Fish - **Ammonia**(NH_3) - **Nitrite**(NO_2^-) - **Nitrate**(CO_3) - **Plant Fertilizer**

The Nitrogen Cycle refers to the conversion of toxic compounds.

Fish waste, uneaten food & decaying plants break down into ammonia, which in high doses can become toxic to fish.

Ammonia is converted into nitrite and then into nitrate by bacteria. These bacteria live in filtration systems or on almost any pond surface.

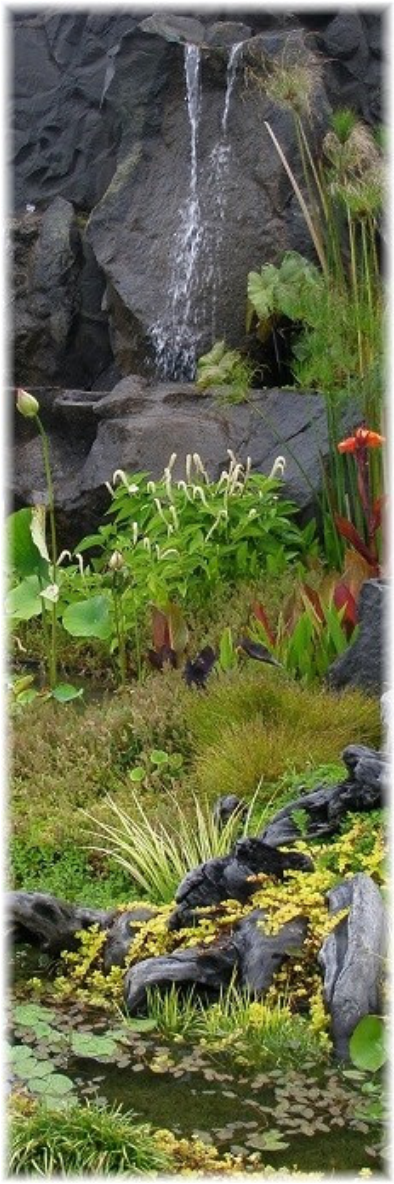
Once converted to Nitrate, it is used by aquatic plants as a fertilizer.

To keep Ammonia, Nitrite & Nitrate at a safe level follow the below tips.

Tips to maintain water quality:

- Have adequate filtration for the size of your pond.
- Plant as many plants as possible, 60%+ coverage of the water surface is best.
- Don't over feed or overcrowd the pond with fish.
- Do regular partial water changes to freshen the water.
- Do not clean your filter with tap water (bore or tank water is okay), as this will kill the beneficial bacteria and takes up to 2 weeks to re-grow.

Ammonia to Nitrite = Bacteria of the Nitrosomonas genus
Nitrite to Nitrate = Bacteria of the Nitrobacter genus



For more information see the
'How To & FAQ' page on our web site.

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