Aerating During Winter

Vertex Aeration Systems are specially designed to operate year-round in cold climates with these important precautions.

To run aeration all winter:

1. Operating in freezing conditions on an ice-covered lake causes large open water areas to remain at the boil sites. **Warning:** ice thickness around these open areas is thinner than the ice over the remainder of the lake. Injury or fatality may result from people, snowmobiles, etc. falling through the ice. **Vertex strongly recommends that this danger of thin ice around the boil area be clearly posted at frequent intervals.** Owner assumes all responsibility for operating Vertex aeration systems during winter months.

2. AirStations™ should be moved to a shallower portion of the waterway (1/2 the depth of original placement) until warmer temperatures return, to allow warmer water to remain in the lower regions of the waterway and prevent water column freezing.

3. Airline tubing on shore must be buried below the frost line and the compressor hose must be insulated between the cabinet and the ground. The tubing must enter the water below the ice depth.

Turn off the system for the winter:

1. Unplug the system; no other equipment preparation is required.

2. When the system is restarted in spring, add one cup of denatured alcohol to each frozen line will melt the ice enough to allow the compressor to push air through the line until heat generated by the compressor melts the remaining ice.

3. Use first time/spring start-up procedures.

Prevent Ice From Causing Problems

There are several reasons for winter pond aeration: to increase oxygen levels in order to prevent winter fish kills, keep open areas of water for winter water fowl and other wildlife, or to prevent dock or boat damage.

Winter Waterfowl

Winter waterfowl seek out areas of open water for a number of reasons, most importantly to rest while protected from predators. Other wildlife seek out areas of open water in order to drink, and because their prey will likely be there too. Whether you are a winter waterfowl enthusiast, or enjoy winter hunting, Vertex winter pond aeration can help you provide for the needs of these animals and help you keep them around all season.

Winter fish kills

During winter months in northern climates where ponds and lakes freeze over, oxygen related fish kills are common. As a pond or lake freezes and is covered by snow, diffusion of oxygen from the air above and the production of oxygen by plants below is cut off. As the fish and bacteria consume what’s left of the oxygen, the levels quickly plummet. A significant, and potentially catastrophic, winter fish kill is the result. A pond aeration system will increase oxygen top to bottom.

Dock de-icing

Winter Aeration System Property owners with ponds or lakes that freeze in the winter face the daunting possibility of severe dock and/or boat damage caused by ice every year.

Ice has a tendency to shift over the course of the season which can cause ice jacking/lifting damage or ice expansion damage resulting in extensive repairs with astronomical costs. Don’t leave the chance of potentially catastrophic ice damage to your boat or dock to Mother Nature. Prevent it!

Whatever your winter pond needs are, Vertex has an aeration system to meet them.

Call today 844-432-4303