



APPLYING DB-200 Granular Pond Sealer

First we recommend, for the construction of a new pond, that you first shape it to the basic form you desire. Where there is a dam, be sure to employ a DROP INLET SPILLWAY as described on the following page:
<http://www.pondenviro.com/History.aspx>

We highly recommend NOT using an "over-the-dam" type spillway. These are typically undercut by high waters (concreted or otherwise) and end up compromising the dam's integrity. We've even seen entire dams cut through this way.

Next, bring in good clay and apply 6" to 8" inches to the shaped pond. After the first application of clay, wet down the clay just before you spread our DB-200 granular pond sealer on top. Use a hand-held grass seed spreader, the kind you hold in your left hand and crank with your right. Now, compact it all using a SMOOTH ROLLER type compactor. The heavier the roller the better, and a vibratory smooth roller is best of all.

Track-type equipment is NOT capable of satisfactory compaction, so don't count on the bulldozer to do the compacting. There's just not enough PSI with track equipment. Even a pick-up truck with weight in the bed is better, or a tractor. Never use a sheep's foot type roller as it punches holes in the clay.

Now make a second application of clay, 6" to 8" and then do the same thing again with the wetting, DB-200 and compaction.

You're now ready to catch rain run-off or pump water into your pond. This is what DB-200 granular pond sealer was developed for, namely for use in the construction of NEW ponds. Here the recommended application rate is 5 five-gallon jugs (cubes) per pond surface acre (that's 25 gallons of granular DB-200). Take care that water entering your pond does not erode the clay liner.

WARNING: DB-200 is so strong, it will coat the gills of fish and they may suffocate before it dissolves off. This effect only lasts about 5 to 7 days, and after that the pond is safe for fish. So, if your pond is new and in construction, OR if you don't currently have fish you want to keep, then DB-200 is okay to use.

Some land owners don't want the "added" expense of bringing in clay and want to try catching and holding water before going to further measures. DB-200 "could" be for you.

If your pond catches water and fills after a heavy rain, BUT doesn't hold water long-term, then the DB-200 is good to try just AFTER a heavy rain when the pond is initially full. It will swell up and treat the pond bottom everywhere you apply it to water. (It sinks straight to the bottom everywhere it's applied to standing water.) DB-200 doesn't work particularly well when applied to dry banks as it is a granular form of our product and tends to wash down into the pond even with a light rain.

If you are going to try using the DB-200 on an existing pond, plan on using MORE THAN the recommended 5 five-gallon jugs per pond acre. You will have to make the judgment, depending upon how much clay you think your natural soil contains.

If your pond does have fish and you want to keep them, then don't plan on using DB-200 granular as a five-gallon jug of DB-200 granular is about 2-¼ times stronger than a five-gallon jug of DB-110 and this is why. DB-110 liquid pond sealer was made to mix completely with water at the very moment of application to a pond. The active ingredients are suspended in a liquid base that allows for this immediate mixing with water. The result is, when applied correctly, DB-110 will not harm fish populations. To apply DB-110 correctly requires that DB-110 be mixed with a MINIMUM of 1000 parts water to 1 part product. There is no maximum. It could be 2000 parts water to one part DB-110.

The most efficient way to mix DB-110 at the time of application to a pond requires the use of a specially set-up pump. It's really the only satisfactory way. We either sell such pumps, or will send you complete instructions on how to set up your own pump.

To be clear, DB-110 (although not as strong per volume as DB-200) has two distinct advantages over DB-200:

- It can be applied to ponds with live fish populations without harming fish (when applied correctly).
- It can be effectively applied to exposed banks to ponds that are less than full.

Some pond owners, having partially full ponds, choose to apply DB-200 to the portion of the pond covered in water, and DB-110 to the exposed banks, up to the point at which they want the water to eventually come; typically up to the point of overflow.

Either one of these products, after correct application, migrates into the pond soil and tends to stay put very well. Once in the soil it will even endure periods of draught and evaporation. It has proved to stay in exposed soil that has caked and cracked open, rehydrating itself and working again when the rains come.

There are limitations to the effectiveness both DB-200 and DB-110. Because it takes time to swell up, if it is drawn into a rapidly flowing single leak, it may not work well, or may require multiple applications. However, if the leak originating in the pond covers a large area (a large seepage) that funnels down to a single flow, or (say) remains a larger seepage all way, then either of these pond sealers probably WILL work well.

If the first application seems to slow down the leaking, then a second application should be fruitful.

If you have not already read the Pond Sealing page at our website, please do go to it at: <http://www.pondenviro.com/PondSealing.aspx>