

# Water Changes

Change 5 gallons of tank water after one week of feeding. Continue once a week, or more if needed.

## Follow these 9 steps for safe water changes

### 1 Run replacement water

Water must run for 30 minutes to clear metals (copper and lead) and sediments.

### 2 Turn off filters /remove redds

If left on the motor will burn out. The rocks are not needed and may hide dead eggs.

### 3 Remove 5 gallons

Having a helper is necessary. Use gravel cleaner to siphon debris from the bottom of tank. Remove water to 5 gallon bucket, never directly to sink.

### 4 Rinse filters in this water

The used water is de-chlorinated and will not kill the beneficial bacteria that live in the filters.

### 5 Dispose of dirty water

If too heavy to lift, use a clean ice-cream pail to scoop water from the 5 gallon bucket.

### 6 Fill bucket with new water

Use replacement water which has ran 30 minutes.

### 7 Add Aquasafe to bucket

Never add water directly to the tank without first removing the chlorine. Stir the Aquasafe into the bucket - it acts immediately to remove chlorine.



### 8 Refill tank

Use ice-cream pail to scoop water from 5 gallon bucket. Avoid disturbing the gravel. Check that water is at correct level for filters.

### 9 Turn on filters

Ensure filter outflow is once again aimed at the refrigerator coils.

## Preparation

### You will need :

- water which has ran 30 minutes
- clean 5 gallon bucket
- clean ice cream pail
- AquaSafe chlorine remover
- Siphon/gravel cleaner



**Change water on Wednesday!**

**if a problem occurs it can be corrected the next day.**

## Tips on using a siphon

- Immerse siphon/gravel cleaner in tank and fill with water - there should not be any air bubbles in the tubing.
- Cover end of tubing with thumb to block water. Remove end of tubing from tank and lower into 5 gallon bucket, (to start siphon the bucket must be lower than the tank water).
- Remove your thumb and water will begin siphoning into the bucket, (if not, check for air bubbles in tube).
- Pump the siphon up and down on the gravel. The debris is light and will be siphoned out with the dirty water while the gravel will fall back into the tank.

**Do not feed fish after water changes. They will be stressed and will not eat.**

