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Algae in Water Gardens

Today on Gardening in a Minute: algae in water gardens

Just like you have weeds in your lawn, you can have weeds in your water garden.

Algae are microscopic weeds that are sometimes a problem in water gardens. Left to grow unchecked, they can cause issues.

Since algae need sunlight in order to grow, you can curb their growth by choosing water garden plants that shade the water.

Limit excess nutrients by fertilizing your water garden plants responsibly. Apply only what your plants need, and use slow-release nutrient tablets that can be pushed into the soil.

Don't overfeed or overstock fish, since both can disrupt the nutrient balance.

As a last resort, you can try an aquatic algicide. Always read the label and make sure the product is suitable for use around other plants and fish.

For more information about water gardens and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.

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