

SOMETHING FISHY, INC.



Something Fishy University Extension Courses UV Sterilizers 101

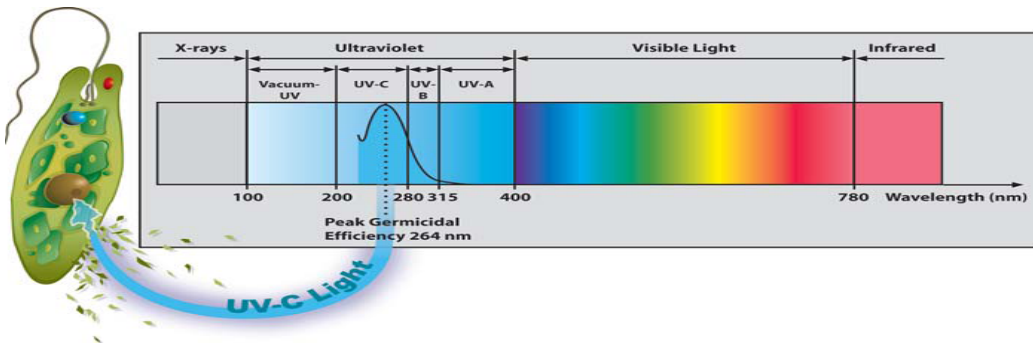


What is an Ultraviolet Sterilizer?

A UV Sterilizer is a type of filtration that can be used on any aquarium set up. It typically consists of a plastic or stainless steel housing, a germicidal lamp with ballast, and a quartz sleeve.

What does an Ultraviolet Sterilizer do and how does it work?

A germicidal (UV) lamp emits light with wavelengths between 200-280 nm. A UV sterilizer will assist in creating excellent water quality and clarity by killing any free floating algae, dinoflagellates, ciliates, and protozoan in the water that move past the germicidal lamp. The slower the water moves past the lamp the greater the kill rate you will achieve. Due to spectral degradation over time the UV bulb should be replaced every 6 months.



Why do I need an Ultraviolet Sterilizer?

To help protect your investment of livestock, Something Fishy, Inc. recommends UV Sterilizer be installed on any Saltwater aquarium. As an added benefit, a UV will work synergistically with a protein skimmer, breaking down large protein complexes, thus increasing skimmer efficiency. When factoring in the added benefits of algae reduction, thus reducing maintenance, it's a no brainer that a UV would benefit an aquarium of any size.



What Size Ultraviolet Sterilizer do I need?

Size can be varied due to installation technique. Every UV manufacture will have specific size recommendations. Following those recommendations will net you good results. Something Fishy, Inc. recommends Emperor Aquatics UV sterilizers for there research based kill rate information, robust construction, and high output per unit size.



Checklist:

Ensure that the wattage is appropriate to kill what your looking to kill.

Ensure that your flow rate is corect to get the proper Kill rate.

Install a bypass if needed to reduce flow through the unit.

Ensure that the unit is preferably installed in a horizontal position, ports up; or in a vertical position with the lower port acting as the input.

Hardware to mount UV body.

Plumbing to from pump, through UV, and Back to tank.

Make sure to clean the sleeve and change the bulb every 6 months.