Install a blower:

If you like to use an energy efficient pump instead of a standard pump to save on electric and water consumption. You may want to install a blower to assist the filter during backwash.

Energy efficient pump is designed to move a lot of water with a low horsepower, and is run at half of the normal speed (1725 rpm instead of 3450 rpm) thus it does not have sufficient pressure to unpack and agitate the media bed inside the filter (a normal pressure of at least 10-12 psi, is required to backwash an Xtreme BioFilter).

Blower required for Xtreme BioFilters as below:

1.0 HP Blower: ST1600, ST1800, ST2000, SS2000
1.5 HP Blower: ST2200, ST2400, ST2700
2.0 HP Blower: ST3000, SS2400, SS3000, SS3600, SC3000, SC3600
As shown in the picture: A blower is installed at the T of the inlet to the multiport valve. A ½ pound spring loaded check valve is installed below the blower and before the T. The flow direction is downward. The spring keeps the check valve closed at all time and is opened only when the blower is turned on, the pressure created by the air in the blower will force the check valve to open.

There is a swing check valve which must be installed at the pump outlet and before the T. This swing check valve prevents water forced back to the pond when the blower is turned on.

To backwash the filter with a blower installed:
1. Turn off the pump, turn the multiport valve to Backwash position
2. Turn on the blower, you should hear a tumbling, boiling sound inside the filter. Run the blower about 30-60 seconds. Dirty water is forced out to the waste line.
3. Turn the blower off, turn the multiport valve to Rinse position, then turn on the blower. The remained dirty water inside the filter is again forced out to the waste line. Run the blower until no water exits at the waste line.
4. Turn off the blower, turn the multiport valve to Backwash position
5. Turn the pump on, perform your routine backwash. When the water viewed through the sight glass is clear. Turn the multiport valve to Filter, and you are done!