

Spring Start Up

Prepare the Equipment

1. Remove water and debris from your pool cover. Use a siphon hose or cover pump.
 - a. Caution: If your above ground cover is several years old or of a lower quality you may drain water from underneath the cover...which means you are draining your pool.
2. Remove the cover. Don't panic when dirty water or debris goes into the pool. It's unavoidable. Do your best. What lands in the pool can be treated or dipped with a leaf net.
3. Hook up the pool pump and filter. Insert all baskets, plugs and pressure gauge. Reconnect any hoses and electrical connections that may be detached.
4. Make sure your skimmer, filter, pumps, drains and other equipment are clean and free of winter debris.
5. Lubricate all o-rings and gaskets with a non-petroleum based lube. We use and recommend Magic Lube.
6. Scoop and remove surface and submerged debris from the pool. Chemicals are more effective when you have physically removed as much debris as possible.
7. Raise the pool water to operating level.
8. Turn on pump with the filter set on BACKWASH (Sand System).
 - a. Prior to turning on pump be sure it is primed. (Pour water into the pump basket until water enters the line to the pool and secure the lid)
9. Run until backwash water clears.
 - a. Turn the pump off and set to RINSE, run until water is clear.
 - b. Now you are ready to FILTER.
10. Vacuum bottom of pool to remove debris.
 - a. Backwash if necessary when done.
 - i. If your pool is extremely dirty you can overfill the pool and vacuum to WASTE. This will lower your water level BUT it will eliminate the filth from your pool system.
11. Brush walls and floor if necessary. Keep pump running 24/7 until water is clear.
 - a. Minimum recommended pump operation time per day is 12 hours, during the day.

DO NOT CHANGE THE POSITION ON YOUR VALVE WITH THE PUMP RUNNING.

Season Opening Tips:

- Check test strips. If discolored, or expired throw them out and start fresh. Expired or damaged strips do not provide accurate results.
- Inspect chemicals remaining from last season. If they're older than that, might consider throwing them out. Liquids that have been frozen need disposed. Liquid Chlorine left from last year will not be effective for pool water - use it around the house or in your laundry.
- Clean your salt cell if you didn't at the end of the season.
- Start with a clean filter. Dirt and debris trapped in the filter decrease flow and minimize effectiveness of chemicals. Taking the time to clean the filter now will result in savings - time and cost of chemicals. Deep cleaning the filter - cartridge or sand - is a quick and simple task and your pool will operate more effectively and efficiently. Note: Clean your filter mid season.

Five Steps to Pool Care

1. Circulation - You've prepared your equipment.
2. Filtration - you're starting with fresh sand or a cartridge: or, you've cleaned your filter media.
3. Cleaning - You've vacuumed the debris and brushed the walls/floor to suspend the particles
4. Testing - let's wait until it's cleared up and stirred up so you don't put in what you don't need.
5. Chemicals - Follow these steps in the order given for best results:

→ If you know you have a problem with metals - Add Metal Remover 24 hours prior to Shock treatment.

→ Shock - At Dusk or on an Overcast Day.

◆ Clear or slightly cloudy water - 1 lb. of Granular Shock or 1 Gal. Liquid Chlorine per 10,000 gal

◆ Green/Black water - 2 lb.of Granular Shock or 2 Gal. Liquid Chlorine per 10,000 gal

- Keep Pump Running 24/7 for the next several days.
- Backwash daily - more often if you are clearing a swamp.
- Repeat the shock procedure every 2-3 days as needed.

→ Add Sanitizer -

◆ Follow label directions for quantity based on your pool size and water condition.

◆ If using an automatic feeder (chlorinator) put dial on highest setting and dial back when you test water in a few days.

→ DO NOT ADD YOUR ALGICIDE YET - It will be more effective after you have balanced your pH.

When your water has cleared and the pump has run for 24-48 hours following clear water, test and balance.

→ Balance order:

◆ Alkalinity - buffers the pH. Must do first or you will fight the pH.

◆ pH

◆ Sanitizer

◆ Add Initial Dose of Algicide. Read label for instructions.

◆ Stabilizer if needed. If you're using Salt you need stabilizer. Bromine - you don't use stabilizer.

◆ Calcium - adjust after 2-3 weeks. Tablets contain calcium, shock contains calcium. Give the water a couple of weeks before you add more than you need.