

Paradise POOL ORIENTATION

POOLS AND SPAS

The following is basic and generic pool information new pool owners need know. Since all pools are set-up differently, the information found here is not specific to your pool. However, it contains general knowledge that pertains or applies to most pools today. Please feel free to ask us any questions!
("The only dumb questions are the ones not asked" -- Unknown.)

EQUIPMENT

- **Pump – Function of pump is to circulate water. Objective for summer months is to circulate all pool water 3 times per day.**
 - Check basket weekly – empty as needed
 - Typically, 2 valves in front of pump – Skimmer & Main Drain
 - Closing main drain valve increases suction to skimmer(s)
 - Closing skimmer valve(s) increases suction to main drains
- **Filter – Function of filter is to clean pool water. All pool water needs to pass through the filter 3 times per day during the summer months.**
 - **Sand Filter Backwashing Instructions** – Turn pump off. Rotate filter handle to “Backwash” position. Turn pump on. Allow pump to run for a minimum of 3 minutes or until water runs clear. Turn pump off. Rotate filter handle to “Rinse” position. Turn pump on. Allow pump to run for a minimum of 45 seconds or until water runs clear. Turn pump off. Rotate filter handle to “Filter” position. Turn pump on.
 - **Cartridge Filter Cleaning Instructions** – Turn pump off. Drain filter tank by removing drain plug. Once tank is empty, reinstall drain plug and remove band around filter top and lift top from base. Remove filter and wash all debris using power nozzle on garden hose. Soak filter(s) in an appropriate cleaning solution overnight. Rinse filter(s) and re-install in filter base. Set filter top back into position. Reattach band. Turn pump on.
- **Cleaner Pump – Its function is to provide the needed pressure to run the automatic cleaner.** This pump pulls water from the existing pressure (return) lines and increases the flow to the cleaner. This pump should be run 2-4 hours per day on average. **(BEWARE: If this pump is run without cleaner attached to wall a loud noise can occur.)**
- **Minerals/Chlorinator – The function of this system is to sanitize the pool.**
 - **The Frog Mineral System** needs to have its cartridge replaced periodically. The cartridge last 6 months. However, we find that most customer do not need a cartridge during the wintertime. Thus, our recommendation is to replace the Frog cartridge in April. It will last until the end of September. Remove the old cartridge and discard it. Replace with new cartridge the following April.
 - **The chlorinator** needs to have chlorine tablets added weekly. The number of tablets is determined by size of pool and water temperature. Dose as follows: 1 chlorine tablet per 10,000 gallons of water in the summer months. If water reaches 90 degrees, increase the dose by at least one tablet per week. If the water is below 80 degrees fewer tablets will be needed. Ask our counter staff for assistance with this schedule.
- **Timer – Is function is to turn the main pool pump and the cleaner pump on and off according to a set schedule.**
 - The main pump needs to turn all pool water over 3 times per day. Ask for assistance from our staff to determine how many hours per day your main pool pump should run.
 - The cleaner pump should run 2-4 hours per day. This pump must run at the same time the main pump is running. **BEWARE: Do NOT run the cleaner pump if the main pump is not on.**
- **Light – Its function is simply to light the pool at night.** A standard bulb will last between 1-5 years. An LED bulb will last up to 10 years. Please get assistance from our staff when your bulb needs to be replaced.

POOL CHEMISTRY

- **Frog Schedule** – Replace Cartridge every April (preferably); Remove and discard cartridge after 6 months. There is no need to run a cartridge in winter. **BEWARE: Leaving mineral cartridge in the Frog reservoir longer than 6 months can result in staining.**
- **Add chlorine tablets to chlorinator weekly. (If using Frog Back Packs, replace every 10-14 days on average.)** The number of tablets is determined by size of pool and water temperature. Dose as follows: 1 chlorine tablet per 10,000 gallons of water in the summer months. If water reaches 90 degrees increase the dose by at least one tablet. If the water is below 80 degrees fewer tablets will be needed. Ask our counter staff for assistance with this schedule.
- **Bring a water sample to store every 4-6 weeks to have your pool water tested.** The customers spending the least amount of money on chemicals are the ones allowing us to test their water and assist them. Our staff will teach you how to keep water clear, clean, sanitized and balanced.
 - The parameters that are extremely important in a swimming pool are: pH, Alkalinity, Calcium, and Stabilizer. We also test for metals, phosphates and other troubling issues.

MAINTENANCE

- **How to vacuum your pool.**
 - You will need your vacuum hose, vacuum pool and vacuum head. Place all items near your pool return (where the water is coming back to the pool).
 - Attach the pole to the vacuum head.
 - Fill the hose full of water. There are several methods for doing this. One of the easiest is to put the entire hose in the water while holding on to both ends. Then hold one end of the hose against the pool return. Allow the hose to fill.
 - Then attach the one end of the hose to the vacuum head. Attach the other end in the skimmer suction port.
 - If you have multiple skimmers and/or main drains, turn pump valves closing off these suction ports. This will increase the suction to your vacuum head. If there is too much suction, adjust accordingly.
- **The net and brush attach to the vacuum pole.** Use these as needed. However, brushing periodically is considered a best practice as it breaks up any microbial (bacteria or algae) substances, not allowing them to flourish.
- **Clean waterline on liner and step regularly.** This prevents staining from oils, lotions and other contaminants.
- **The ladder(s) and hand rail(s) are removable.** If not removed each winter, the rails can cease to the anchors and become unmovable.
- **Pool Cleaner Maintenance** – Remove bag and empty debris weekly or as needed.

THINGS TO KNOW

- **After new construction, we offer three (3) FREE service calls within 3 months of the finish date. Construction Manager has coupons.**
- **Monitoring your drainage is important.** Over time the landscape of your yard will change. Never allow water to stand or puddle in or around the pool area. If water is allowed to stand near the pool, it will soak into the ground and eventually make a path to your pool structure. This can cause your liner to float or your pool to become unlevelled. **Water drainage, ground movement, erosion, and other ground and water issues are NOT covered under warranty.**
- **Keep ants away from equipment and liner.** Ants love the warmth of the pump motor. They will build nests around the pump causing your motor to burn up. In addition, ants will build nest around the wall near the water's edge. These nests are underground and will push liner out of track.