



Information for New Pool Owners

If you have recently purchased a home with a pool or are new to pools, the maintenance on them can be a little overwhelming at first. Below is a simple check list of what will be required on a weekly, monthly, and yearly basis.

- Yearly
 - **Pool Opening** (*this is a service we offer*)
 - This is usually done in the month of April or May. The water on top of the cover as well as the debris must be removed and the cover cleaned and stored.
 - There are three types of winter covers including overlap (surrounded by water bags), lock in (clips into the track around the perimeter of the pool) and safety cover (stretches over the pool and is anchored to the pool deck).
 - Circulation fittings must be removed from the returns and skimmer.
 - The equipment must be reassembled.
 - Initial shock treatment, and cover treatment should be added.
 - Underground lines will have to be primed and the equipment started.
 - **Pool Closing** (*this is a service we offer*)
 - This is usually done in September or October. The cover must be installed over the pool. Debris from the bottom of the pool must be removed.
 - There are three types of winter covers including overlap (surrounded by water bags), lock in (clips into the track around the perimeter of the pool) and safety cover (stretches over the pool and is anchored to the pool deck).
 - Circulation plugs must be put into the returns and skimmer, as well as anti-freeze and a gizmo.
 - The equipment must be winterized.
 - A winter chemical treatment should be added to the water.
 - Underground lines must be blown clear of water to prevent damage from freezing.
- Monthly
 - **Water Testing** (*this is a free service we offer at our store*)
 - At least once a month, the water should be professionally tested to determine if any balancing chemicals are required.
 - Water testing every week or every other week is advisable.
 - Using test strips to monitor pH and sanitizer levels is good practice and convenient. A full professional water test is still recommended at least once a month.
 - Salt pools need to balance salt levels. Most salt systems display the salt content in the water. When salt levels are very high or very low, or the water temperature is too cold, these systems

will give false readings instructing owner to add too much salt to the pool. The best way to determine salt content is with a professional water test.

- Lack of water management can quickly damage pool equipment. Low alkalinity can destroy a new pool heater in a very short amount of time.

- Weekly

- **Maintenance** (*this is a service we offer*)

- The pool will need to be vacuumed.
 - The surface of the water will need to be skimmed.
 - The pump basket must be emptied of debris.
 - The backwash line will need to be run out to the road or a drain.
 - The filter will need a 3 minute backwash followed by a 30 second rinse (note that the pump must be off whenever changing settings on the dial valve).
 - Stairs, waterline, skimmer, faceplates, and spill over spas may require scrubbing.
 - The skimmer basket must be emptied of debris. This may need to be done more frequently depending on the backyard.
 - Sanitizer, algaecide, oxidizer, and balancing chemicals must be added to the pool.

- Daily

- **Water level and Debris**

- The water level in the pool should be $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up the face of the skimmer.
 - Water levels that are too low could damage equipment.
 - Water levels that are too high will prevent the pool skimmer from removing debris
 - The skimmer basket should be emptied.

Summertime Pool Services

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