



BEACH LIFE

Pools and Spas, LLC

Pool Maintenance

Guide

How to Clean a Pool the BEACH LIFE Way...

Step 1: Once you arrive at the pool, first determine whether the pool has a WORKING autofill or if you will need to add water via water hose. If the pool has no autofill, put water hose in the pool and turn on water. (Exception to this is if the pool water is too high, for example after it gets a lot of rain or if someone else leaves water on in the pool and it gets too high.)

Step 2: Locate pool cleaning equipment and set out everything you will need (pole, brush, skimmer net, vacuum head and hose, microfiber rag and side cleaner).

Step 3: Attach brush to pole. Brush ledges, jets, light fixtures and the entire water line of the pool, making sure to brush any small crevasses below the water line to remove any possible algae. Whether the pool has tile or not we brush first to remove debris to allow it to sink for vacuuming or to be skimmed. If vigorous brushing will not remove debris because of oil use the microfiber rag and cleaning spray to remove the oil.

Properly brushing the areas mentioned above will minimize the occurrence of algae blooms by not allowing spores to attach and grow on hidden surfaces. On the occasion that you come to the pool, and it has visible algae on floors and walls, brush entire pool, walls, floors, steps and the problem areas previously mentioned, then skim surface of pool and vacuum.

Step 4: Attach skimmer net to pole and skim surface of water for debris. (This is done so that any debris on the top does not sink to the bottom after you have already vacuumed.) Take skimmer net off and attach vacuum head (which should already be attached to the hose).

Step 5: Locate pool water skimmer (usually located at deep end of pool). Remove lid and basket and dump the basket (preferably in a trash can if there is any trash debris. It is ok to dump organic debris in natural vegetation where it will not be in another yard or be an eye sore). Return basket to the skimmer.

Step 6: MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A SKIMMER PLATE ON THE END OF YOUR VACCUUM HOSE. Place end of hose just in the top of the water in the pool skimmer (not allowing it to get sucked down by the return hole yet). Place vacuum head over jet closest to you and allow hose to fill with water. (You will hear and/or see bubbles coming out of the other end of the hose. When it stops bubbling you know you have a full hose). Once hose is full of water you

can place the plate over the skimmer basket for suction. Make sure the plate covers the skimmer basket completely. Allow some time for the pump to get any air out of your hose. To check for suction if in doubt, you can place hand on vacuum suction hole. If you have good suction, you are ready to vacuum!

Step 7: Vacuum in straight lines just like vacuuming a floor. Even if you cannot see anything, that does not mean it is not there. Vacuum the entire bottom of the pool. Make sure to vacuum any ledges and steps as well. (If vacuum is not cleaning small ledges properly use brush to remove debris and vacuum from the pool floor.) Once finished, condense your pole, head back over to skimmer and stand next to your vacuum hose. Pull vacuum head up out of the water, wait for the water to be sucked out of the hose and then pull the hose out of the skimmer. Remove pole from vacuum head and wind hose back up for storage.

Step 8: Locate pool filter and power switch. If a backwash hose needs to be run out for backwashing, then do so. Cut off power to pump. Turn the multiport valve over to "BACKWASH " and turn power back on. Allow pool to backwash for roughly 60 seconds or until water is running clear in the sight glass. Cut power off again. Turn multiport valve over to "RINSE" and cut power back on. Allow pool to rinse for roughly thirty more seconds. Once water is running clear, cut power off. While power is off, remove lid from the pump basket and pull basket out. Discard the debris (Same rules apply as the skimmer basket). Return pump basket correctly into the pump, it only fits one way. Make sure black seal is free of debris and is in its channel (If seal is damaged please replace.) Secure lid back on the pump hand-tight so air does not get into pump.

Turn multiport valve over to "FILTER" and turn power back on. Make sure to look at and listen to the pump, it will let you know if the lid was properly seated (i.e., slow priming or hissing sound made by air entering pump through small crevasses means it was not put back on correctly). Once finished, return backwash hose, if there is one. Rolling backwash hose will help it resist dry rot. If backwash line is plumbed into ground, then no need to worry with a hose.

Step 9: Once all cleaning is done, replace all equipment that belongs to the pool to its proper place. If needed, dump skimmer basket again, return it, and replace lid. Check chemicals and add any if needed.

Step 10: Enjoy your swim!

REMINDERS

Salt Cells: If the pool has a salt cell, check to make sure all lights are green. Take note of any that are red or blinking. IF low salt light is on then salt needs to be added. The size of the pool will determine how many bags to add.

Chlorinators: When checking chlorinator, the power needs to be off before you open it. Once open, check to see how many sticks need to be added. If chlorine is needed, use the knob to adjust the output.

Water: If pool does not have an autofill, please remember to add water when needed.

In general...

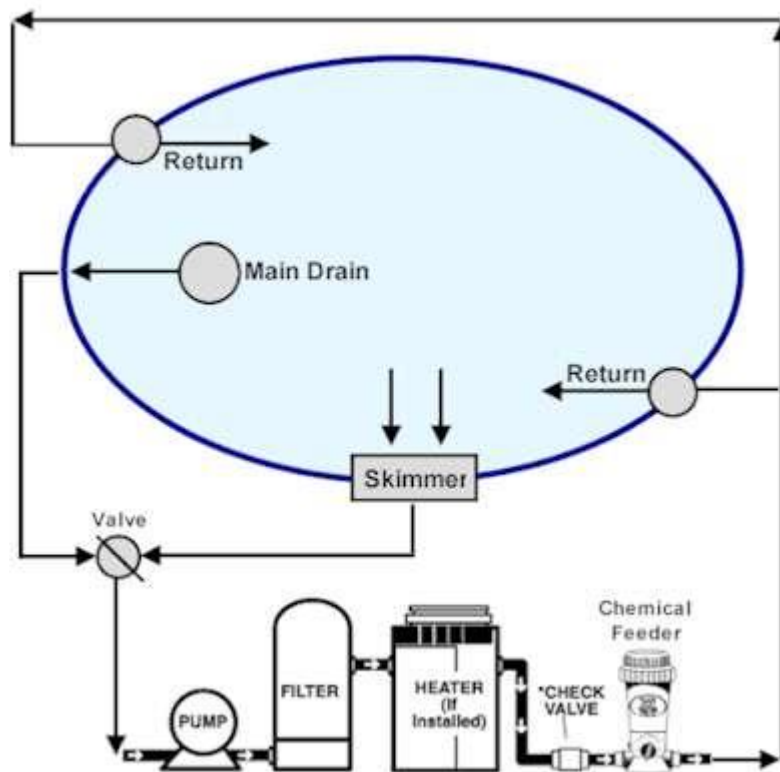
-Always make sure you cut the power to the pump OFF before you turn the handle on the multiport valve. IF you turn it while the power is on then the top CAN blow off from the pressure, thus causing harm to both you and the pool filter. So please just do not do that.

-If you do not know something, ASK. Do not guess and do not assume PLEASE. We encourage questions!

How Does a Pool Work?

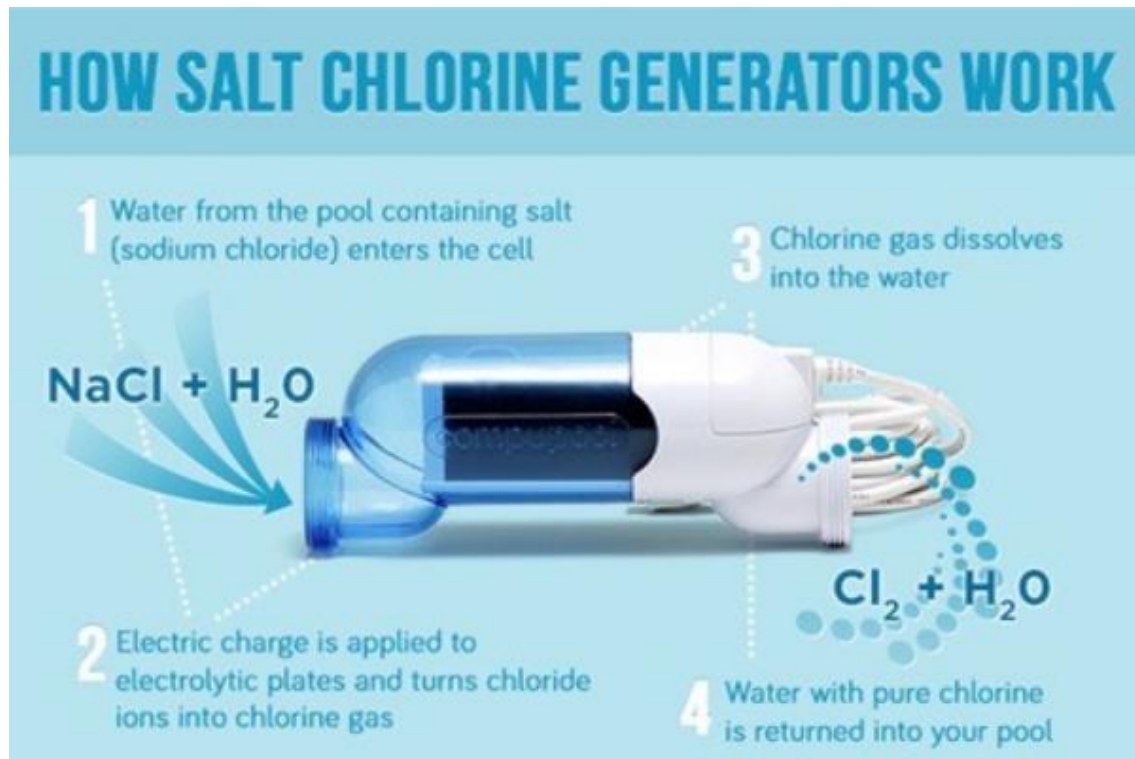
This pretty much sums it up...

A Typical Pool System



This will either be a chlorinator or salt cell.

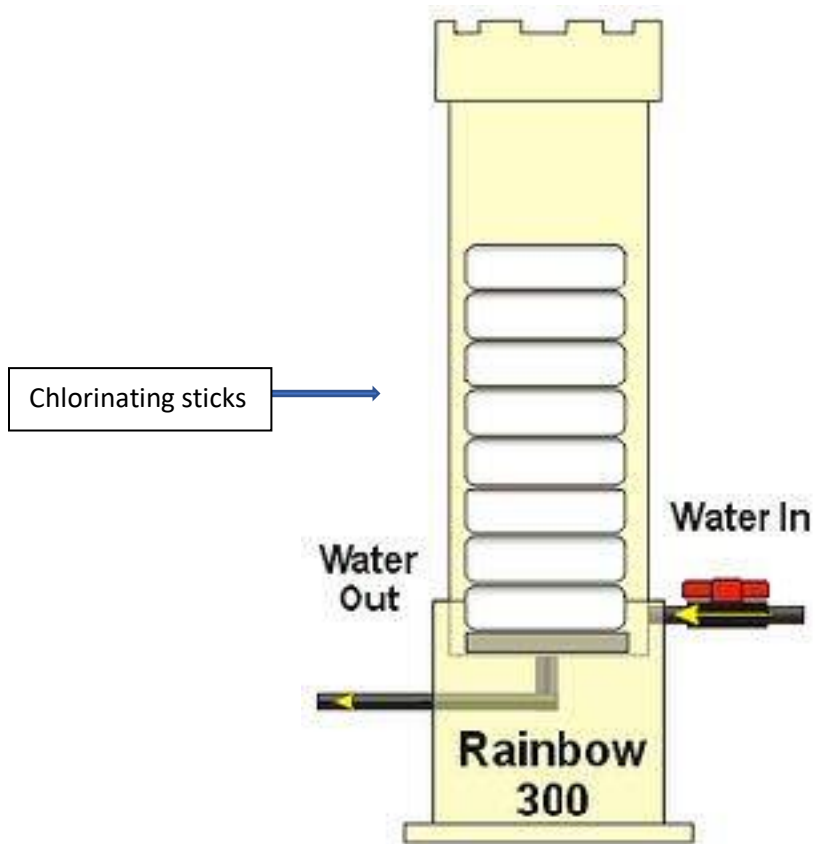
How Does a Salt Cell Work?



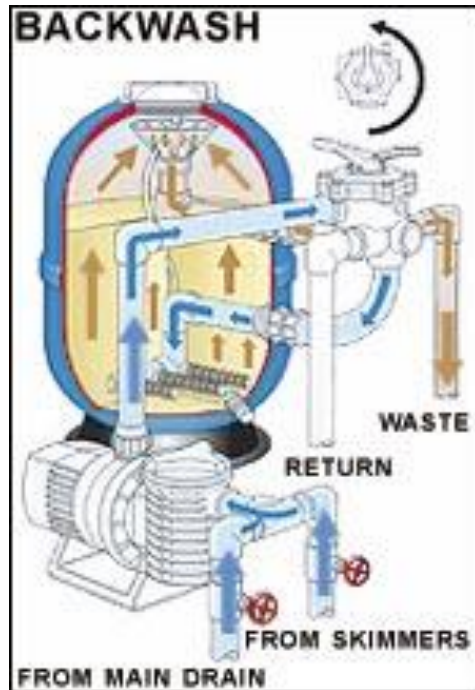
How Does a Chlorinator Work?

(Erosion Feeder)

In simple terms...

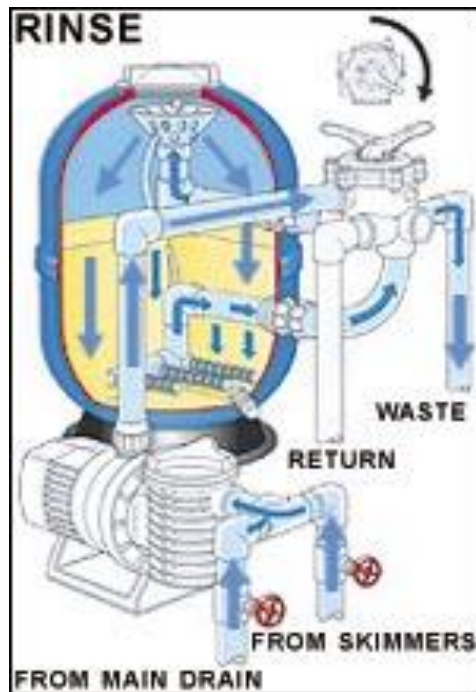


What is the Purpose of Backwash?



Backwash or backwashing is the process of thoroughly cleaning a swimming pool's filter by a method of reversing the flow of water to flush out contaminants. This way, you don't have to clean the filter manually. Continue the process until the water runs clear through the waste line.

What is the Purpose of Rinse?



The 'Rinse' setting should be used after backwashing. On this setting the water is flowing through the filter in the normal direction but once again is being sent to the waste pipe rather than being returned to the pool. This setting does pretty much what it says and rinses out any last traces of dirt and debris from your filter after the backwashing process.

Which Chemicals DO NOT Mix...

1. Acids and Chlorine: Do not add shock and then immediately pour in an acid or vice versa. Add one, wait a few minutes for it to circulate well, then add the other.
2. Alkalinity increaser (Sodium bicarbonate) and an Acid: Sodium bicarb increases the alkalinity and pH of the water. Acid decreases both, therefore it would be counterproductive to add these together.
3. Calcium chloride and Sodium Bicarbonate: When added to water together, they make a large volcano of air bubbles out of the skimmer and a lot of heat. This creates an air pocket that is sucked into the pump which can cause damage to the pump and/or filter.

Chemical Warnings

- DO NOT ingest any chemicals. (This should be a given...)
- DO NOT inhale chlorine gas. When you open a bucket containing chlorine, do so in an open, ventilated area. Allow the fumes to clear before you retrieve chlorine from the bucket. Inhaling chlorine gas WILL cause your lungs to fill with fluid. If you do happen to inhale chlorine gas fumes get outside and walk around. Breathe the fresh air! If you cannot stop coughing and are having trouble breathing, dial 911. But please lets just avoid that by putting safety first and NOT opening chlorine buckets in a confined space.
- DO NOT put your wet hand into the calcium. It will BURN you.
- Always rinse your hands thoroughly after handling any chemicals.
- If any chemicals get in your eyes, immediately rinse with fresh water.