

Cleaning your pool

– Information Sourced from <http://www.onga.com.au/Cleaningpools>

The following are tips on cleaning your pool.....

Debris

- When preparing to open your pool for the season, clean all leaves and other debris off the cover before removing it.
- Empty your skimmer baskets frequently. You'll help minimize the amount of leaves that end up on the bottom of your pool.
- When cleaning the surface of your pool with a leaf net, work your way around the sides first, then clean from the middle of the pool to the sides.
- Empty your leaf net occasionally when cleaning your pool's surface. Otherwise, the net's contents may accidentally end up back in the pool.
- Keep the trees and shrubs around your pool trimmed back to minimize the amount of leaves and debris that end up in the pool.

Water Clarity

- When opening your pool at the beginning of the season, run your filter around the clock until the water is completely clear.
- If your pool water appears green or has an unpleasant odor, the problem is probably caused by algae. Test for proper chlorine level, and consult a pool professional if the problem persists.
- Keep your filter, pump, lint trap and skimmer baskets clean and in proper working condition to help ensure that your pool water stays sparkling clear.
- Pool inlets should be adjusted so the surface water is moving in a circular direction.

Make a habit of checking and emptying skimmer and pump baskets regularly.

Cleaners

- An automatic pool cleaner will dramatically reduce the time spent on weekly maintenance.
- If you fill your pool with well water, you'll need to add a metal remover.

Filters

- When cleaning cartridge filters, soak them in a cleaning solution for 24 hours, then hose them off before reinstalling.
- D.E. filters should be disassembled and cleaned at least once per season.

- If your sand filter is 3-5 years old, ask your pool professional if it's time to replace the sand.
- If your filter pressure gauge indicates that pressure has dropped below the normal reading for a clean filter, check to see if you have a clogged pump or skimmer basket.
- Clean your sand or D.E. filters when you close your pool for the season.
- To obtain maximum filtration and energy efficiency, backwash or clean your filter regularly, as required.

Gaskets, O-rings & Rubber Fittings

- If your pool has a deck-mounted junction box, check the condition of the gaskets regularly—and replace as needed—to make sure the box cannot be penetrated by water.
- When closing your pool for the season, coat all accessible o-rings, rubber fittings, and gaskets with a silicone O-ring lube to keep them from drying out.

Heaters

- To maintain your heater's efficiency, follow a regular program of preventive maintenance, including annual inspection and de-liming of the heat exchanger when necessary.

Lighting

- The addition of fiber optic or automated color-changing lighting can dramatically enhance your nighttime pool enjoyment.

Pumps

- Turn the pool pump off before operating the multi-port valve.
- If your pump starts running louder or making unusual noises, shut it off and contact your pool professional.
- Make a habit of checking and emptying skimmer and pump baskets regularly.

Skimmers

- Check to make sure the skimmer weir is in place and is moving freely.
- Make a habit of checking and emptying skimmer and pump baskets regularly.