

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### A

**ACID** - A chemical which releases hydrogen ions into water, decreasing pH. When water measures below 7.0, it is acidic. Add acid to lower pH and alkalinity.

**AIR LEAK** - What happens when something on the suction side is not air-tight. Pool pumps need to create a vacuum to work properly. Air leaks can be dangerous as trapped air can be compressed, causing high pressures. Air leaks can cause foam and bubbles. Correct air problems immediately.

**ALGAE** - Microscopic plants deposited in pool water by wind, rain, and dust. It comes in many colors including green, yellow, brown, black, and pink.

**ALGAECIDE** - A strong chemical which kills algae and deters its proliferation.

**AUTOMATIC CHLORINATOR** - Automatically dispenses chlorine tablets into pool water .



**AUTOMATIC POOL CLEANER** - Device that cleans debris on the bottom of the pool automatically.



### B

**BACKWASH** - Cleaning your filter sand that involves reversing the flow of water through the filter.

**BACKWASH HOSE** - Connected to filter that carries wastewater away from pool. (some people use their vacuum hose to carry wastewater)

**BAQUACIL** - An alternative sanitizer that is part of a pool water treatment system that uses no chlorine. Most chemicals used with chlorine are incompatible with Baquacil, and vice versa.

**BRUSH** - Connects to your telepole. You should brush your pool weekly.



## C

**CALCIUM HARDNESS** - A measure of the level of calcium salts in the water. Helps determine how scaling or corrosive the water is. It is especially important to monitor in pools with a plaster finish. It helps ensure longer vinyl liner life.

**CARTRIDGE FILTER** - Filter with a pleated cloth element which traps debris.

Cartridge



**CHLORINE** - Chemical sanitizer that kills bacteria and algae

**CLARIFIER** - Chemical used to remove haze from water. Usually works by causing small particles to join together so the filter can filter them out.

**CLOUDY** - Description of the water when you cannot see the bottom of the pool

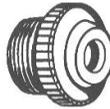
**COPING** - Plastic pieces under top cap that hold the liner to the pool.

## D

**DEFOAMER** - A chemical which reduces and/or eliminates foam. Simply squirt the product over surface.

## E

**EYEBALL** - Fitting that attaches to the pool return so that the water can be propelled in a certain direction.



## F

**FILTER** - A device that removes waste particles from the pool as water passes through a porous substance called the filter medium. Types of swimming pool filters are sand, diatomaceous earth and cartridge.



**FILTER CYCLE** - Length of time between backwash cycles.

**FLOATER** - Dispenses chlorine tablets into your pool while floating in the water.



**FLOCCULATING AGENT** - Add to water to coagulate particles that cause haze. Sinks all cloudy particles to the bottom for easy vacuum removal.

**FREE CHLORINE** - The amount of chlorine in the pool that is available to kill bacteria.

**FLANGE** - Used to connect the ladder to the deck.



## H

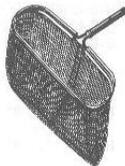
**HAZE** - Description used when you can see the bottom of the pool but the pool is not crystal clear.

## L

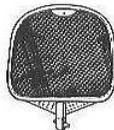
**LEAF VACUUM** - Attaches to a garden hose. Pushes leaves into a bag on the top of the leaf vacuum.



**LEAF RAKE** - A deep net to scoop leaves under the water.



**LEAF SKIMMER** - A shallow net for skimming the water's surface.



## M

**MURIATIC ACID** - Used to lower pH and Alkalinity

## O

**ORGANIC** - Debris such as microorganisms, perspiration, urine, etc. that needs to be burned up or "oxidized" regularly to prevent haze, algae, chloramines, etc.

## P

**pH** - A measure of how acidic or basic the water is. pH of 7.0 is neutral. Pool water should be kept slightly basic: pH 7.2-7.8

**PSI (pounds per square inch)** - Measurement unit of filter pressure.

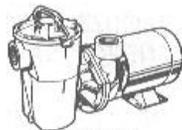
**PPM (parts per million)** - The accepted unit measurement of chemical concentration in swimming pool water.

**PRIMING** - Filling the strainer or vacuum hose with water to help push air out of the filter system.

**PRESSURE GAUGE** - Dial located on backwash valve or on top of filter. Indicates the pressure in the filter. The gauge signals when the filter needs cleaning or backwashing.



**PUMP** - Moves water through the filter and around the pool.



## R

**RETURN FITTING** - The point at which water returns to the pool.



## S

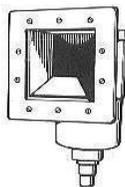
**SAND FILTER** – A tank that uses sand to filter pool water.



**SANITIZER** - A chemical used to kill bacteria. Generic names: Chlorine, Bromine, and Baquacil.

**SHOCK** - An oxidizer that “burns off” the organic wastes. A larger than normal dose of chlorine is used as a shock.

**SKIMMER** - Box-like device on side of pool, which allows the pump to skim the top few inches of pool water. Contains a removable basket that needs to be cleaned often.



**STABILIZER** - Prevents sunlight from dissipating your chlorine out of your pool. Used once a season. Commonly called conditioner or cyanuric acid.

**STRAINER** - A basket in front of the pump that keeps fine debris from reaching the pump’s impeller area.



**SODA ASH** – Sodium Carbonate. A chemical used to raise the pH.

**SODIUM BICARBONATE** – A chemical to raise the Total Alkalinity.

**SOLAR COVER** - Blanket to warm the pool water.

## T

**TELESCOPING POLE** - Pole that extends to use with cleaning devices.

**TEST STRIPS** - Easy to use strips that test your chemicals by dipping them into the water.

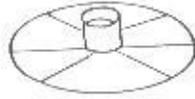


## V

**VACUUM HOSE** - Attaches to the vacuum head on one end and to the vacuum plate on the other.



**VACUUM PLATE** - Provides a vacuum-sealed connection in the skimmer for the vacuum hose.



**VACUUM HEAD** - A flat piece of equipment that is connected to the vacuum hose and pole to vacuum the pool.

