

The Deep End

APR2017

Spring Has Sprung!!



GREEN products are available at Pool Patrol.

Do your part to save the environment.

You get to save money at the same time!

Sign up for our digital newsletter for more info through our hyperlinks

[Speaking of saving \\$\\$\\$, Check our ECayOnline Site for weekly specials!](#)

Spring is here, Easter is fast approaching, and everyone will be out at the beach camping or relaxing with the family poolside. Don't be an April Fool. Get some new gear for the pool! With the largest selection of toys, games, floats, etc. on island, you will find something for family fun time.



We Now Accept American Express!!!



Pool Patrol is excited to announce that we are now taking American Express cards for payment. Whether it's your monthly service contract or a quick stop in the store for a game for the kids, you can earn points by using your AmEx card. Stop by today and earn some AmEx points!



North Sound Plaza
North Sound Rd
George Town, Grand Cayman

Phone: 345-949-8543
Fax: 345-949-0762
Email: pools@poolpatrol.ky

Visit our web site
www.poolpatrol.ky

Question Line

Q : I have noticed more and more sand in my pool. It seems to be right under the return jets where the water comes into the pool. What causes that?

A : Great question. It would seem that you have something broken inside your sand filter. Sand filters work with gravity. This means the water enters the top of the filter, gets pushed down through the

sand bed, and then goes through little "fingers" called laterals.

If one or more of those laterals have damage such as a little hole or crack, then this will be enough to allow sand to pass through and back into your pool.

When you have your sand changed every 5 years or so, make sure the tech visually inspects the laterals and replaces any that are broken or crystallized from the chemicals. Crystallized laterals may not be broken yet but will be soon.

HAPPY SWIMMING!

When Should I Backwash My Filter?

A lot of pool owners actually understand very little about their swimming pools. The equipment is unfamiliar and operating the different pieces can feel daunting. Does this sound like you? Don't worry, you're not alone.

While everyone knows that they have a pump and filter, few know what type of filter they have. More importantly, they don't understand how it works.

Let's start with a quick primer. There are 3 types of filters: sand, DE, and cartridge. Sand filters use sand to filter out most contaminants. This technology has been around for thousands of years. DE filters use powder called Diatomaceous Earth which is made from crushed, fossilized hard-shelled algae called diatoms. Cartridges use a pleated fabric, either paper or a synthetic. Pleating allows more surface area to fit in a given space. As the water is pushed through the relevant media,

contaminants are filtered out. When the media has filtered all it can, it's time to backwash. Cartridges do not get backwashed; you hose them off and use a spray filter cleaner.

How do you know the filter has filtered all it can and is ready for a backwash? It's when the pressure gauge on your filter is reading 10psi higher than your "clean" reading. Then, and only then, is it necessary to backwash.

If you look at sand under a microscope, you will see it has rough and jagged edges. Sand filters filter out dirt as the dirty water passes through the spaces in between the grains of sand. As it keeps filtering, the spaces in between get smaller and smaller. This allows the sand to be able to filter out a smaller particle and perform a better clean. If you backwash too soon, you are actually make the spaces bigger again, and the sand can only grab the larger particles.

DE filters have panels inside

that get coated with a slurry of diatomaceous earth. Again, as water is pushed through the spaces in the media, dirt is filtered out. DE particles are much smaller than sand, so they can filter a much smaller particle.

Regardless of sand or DE, you want to backwash thoroughly. This means "BACKWASH" until the sight glass goes clear, then "RINSE" for 10-15 seconds, then go back to "BACKWASH" and repeat the cycle 3 or 4 times. With DE, you will need to recharge the filter with new DE again so it can keep filtering.

If you did not backwash thoroughly, you will have too much DE in the filter when you recharge it. This can cause too much pressure inside, crushing panels, manifold or some other part. Then DE can go into the pool making it cloudy. You may lose a little sand when backwashing, but shouldn't be enough to make a difference.
