

# The Deep End

MAY 2016

## How MAY We Help you??



**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!](#)

As we celebrate this milestone with you, our customers, we want to remind you of all that we can do to help you create that perfect backyard Eden.

We use top-of-the-line Pool Studio CAD software to design all our pools, even for other builders.

From a small dipping pool for a homeowner to a full-scale splash pad for the Ritz Carlton, we have the tools to deliver on the backyard you've been dreaming of.



Everyone can benefit from a hot soak. It's scientifically proven to relax and rejuvenate our bodies, and help us recoup and recover from the stresses of life.

We offer Hydropool Hot Tubs and Swim Spas, the most energy-efficient hydrotherapy tubs on the market. And the only Self-Cleaning units available in the world.

Stop in for a consultation to see which tub is right for you.



## Win a FREE MONTH of Service!



\*Submit a picture of your "Pool Patrol-ed" pool to [pools@poolpatrol.ky](mailto:pools@poolpatrol.ky) with a blurb about how you have enjoyed our service and you can win [30 DAYS OF FREE MAINTENANCE!](#)

\*Existing Customers who refer a friend will get a free month of service!

\*New customers will earn a free month as well!



## Question Line

**Q** : Someone told me that if my pool loses a 1/4" of water per day, that means I have a leak. Is that true?

**A** : Great question. There really is no "normal" rate of water loss for all pools. Every pool is different.

Water loss due to evaporation is dependent on a number of variables that will change from pool to pool, and

even from day to day in the same pool. It is not acceptable to say that any water loss over 1/4" per day is the result of a leak.

There is a "normal" for your own pool, which you would know better than anyone. Is it windy at your house? You'll lose more water "normally" than someone whose house isn't so windy.

Only through a proper leak detection process can one determine if there is a leak.

**HAPPY SWIMMING!**

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## I Think I Have a Leak In My Pool...

Your pool will naturally lose some water from evaporation, some from splash-out/drag-out, and some to backwashing your filter. You may also gain some from rainfall. My rule of thumb is that if you're adding more than 3 inches per week, you **MAY** have a leak. It's worth spending some time and money to repair it properly.

Pools are meant to be water-tight, but sealants will deteriorate while other parts of your pool shift and settle or just plain wear out. Pools can leak through any of the fittings or accessories, plumbing, or even right through the shell.

It is important to repair leaks, not only to save water, heat, and chemicals, but also to prevent undermining pool structural components and washing away fill dirt, compromising the structural integrity of your pool.

By far, the most common indicator of a leak is that the water level is dropping faster than the normal evaporation or splash-out. If you wake up to find your pool has dropped several inches overnight, you know you have a problem. The bigger challenge is the

smaller leaks that may develop slowly.

In these cases, it is important to determine what is "normal water loss" to avoid looking for a leak that isn't there. A simple way to account for evaporation and confirm a leak is to do a bucket test.



Is the pool leaking only when the pump is running? This indicates a leak in the pressure-side plumbing of your system. Is the pool leaking only when the pump is off? This can indicate a suction-side leak. When the pump is on, the plumbing is under vacuum and air is drawn in through otherwise leaking voids.

Does the pool leak all the time? This does not rule out plumbing, but may more likely indicate a structural issue, like a crack around the skimmer area where it meets with the shell of the pool.

Does the water seem to stabilize at any particular level? Then that's a good indicator of your leak. If it stops at a level with the pool light, then you probably found the culprit.

There are many reasons of why a leak develops, but keep an eye out for these signs:

- \* air or dirt in pump or blown in pool
- \* difficulty maintaining pump prime
- \* wet, mushy area in the yard/garden
- \* high water bill
- \* excess chemical use
- \* excess algae growth
- \* dropping water level
- \* structural damage

Keep in mind, you may have a compound problem. Meaning, you might have more than one leak at the same time. Unfortunate, but possible. But don't worry, we offer full leak detection and repair services.