

The Deep End

NOV2016

Welcome to Novem-brrrrr!!



GREEN products are available at Pool Patrol.

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November is here. While it is still hot outside, your pool doesn't feel like a warm bath anymore. Some of you like that, but some of you don't.

Stop in today to find an easy way to warm your pool. Whether you have a heater or not, one of our solar cover alternatives will help keep the heat in your pool where it belongs.

Solar blankets can be big and cumbersome. While a reel helps a lot, these smaller Solar Sun Rings take things to a whole new level. Each is only a few feet wide and super-easy to remove.



Liquid solar blankets have been around for over 30 years. Simply add a few ounces once a week, and you won't even notice that it's there...except for the nice, warm pool water!



Para'Kito – DEET-free Mosquito Repellent



Waterproof mosquito repellent is something we all could use. Waterproof and NO CHEMICALS? Well, that's a no-brainer. Come in and see all the different designs that we stock!



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Question Line

Q : My neighbor has a solar cover, but it just seems like a big hassle. Plus he has to replace it every year! Why should I use one on my pool?

A : Great question. Solar covers serve many functions: reduce evaporation, reduce heat loss, and even generate heat.

If you put money in your pool water by heating it, do you want to watch it all evaporate away to nothing? Of course not.

95% of heat loss is from the surface of your pool via convection, radiation and evaporation. If you put a cover on, this is all cut down dramatically. Depending on your sun exposure, you can even heat the water 4-10 degrees.

Evaporation means adding fresh water, which means balancing the water, which means more chemicals, which means more money. Simply add a cover, and you can cut this down significantly. The cover can pay for itself with energy savings.

HAPPY SWIMMING!

What Type of Heater is Right For Your Pool?

It's that time of year again. The winds are blowing, it's not quite so crazy hot as usual, and the pool water has dropped below 90 degrees! While the first two items are good news, the second can be a cause of concern for a lot of pool owners out there.

There are several different types of pool heaters on the market. With so many options, how do you know what's going to work best for your particular pool? Let's keep things simple, and look at some options.

The first thing to consider is how do you plan on using the heater? I know, to heat the pool water! What I mean is: will you want to turn the heater on in November and turn it off in March? Or will you just want to turn it on occasionally when you might fancy a swim?

If you plan on using the pool frequently over the winter and want it to always be warm and ready for whomever may want to jump in, then you may want to consider a heat pump.

If you will only use it on the weekends, or even less than that, you may want to consider a propane heater.

Heat pumps are usually more expensive up front but typically cheaper to operate over the long run as they typically have about 500-600% efficiency.

Propane heaters are usually less expensive up front, but the operating costs are typically higher with needing to refill the propane tank. The typical propane heater is only 84% efficient. There are some available that are in the 94% range, but carry with them a whole other set of problems from trying to force them to be more efficient. And don't forget the cost of having a propane tank installed as well.

Regardless of price or efficiency, you will not be a satisfied pool owner if you are trying to force the equipment to do something it's not designed to do.

A gas heater is very well suited for getting water up to temperature quickly. It produces a flame that heats the water in the heat exchanger at a pretty good rate giving you a average temp rise of about 2 degrees an hour.

A heat pump does not produce a flame to heat your water. This works like

a reverse air conditioner. It will take the warm ambient air and transfer that heat into your pool water. The waste product from this process is cold air coming out of the top of the unit. This is the reverse of your AC unit at the house which is putting cold air in your home and exhausting hot air out the top. Some countries even recycle the by-product cold air back into the house which would theoretically increase the "efficiency" dramatically!

Heat pumps will take longer to get your pool up to temp, but will be very efficient at the maintenance heating, keeping your water nice and warm for very little money. The gas heater can get you up to temp much faster, but is a bit inefficient at the maintenance heating end of things.

Regardless of which way you choose to go, you will want to keep the heat in your pool. Make sure to get a solar cover of some sort so you're not cooling the pool back down overnight wasting your money!
