



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE • COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 04-09A

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

MAINTAINING POOL/SPA WATER CHEMISTRY

TESTING THE POOL/SPA WATER

Testing your pool water is a key step in keeping your pool water clean, safe and sparkling blue. This Department recommends and uses the DPD Test Kits.

- Take samples about 18" below the surface of the water and away from return lines and swimmers.
- Perform tests out of direct sunlight.
- Store your kit out of direct sunlight in a dry, cool dark place.
- Fresh test kit reagents ensure accurate test results.
- Test for pH, chlorine, and cyanuric acid on a regular basis

Replace your test chemicals at the beginning of each season. Your PROFESSIONAL POOL DEALER carries the complete line of replacement agents.

MAINTAINING THE PROPER pH LEVELS

The pH of your pool water should always be between 7.2 and 8.0. If it is lower or higher, the chlorine in your water won't work well. The right pH is also important to your comfort while you are in the water. The eye irritation that most people blame on chlorine is really caused by the wrong pH balance. Low pH causes etching of the plaster and corrosion of the metal portions of the recirculation system; high pH can turn pool water cloudy. To balance pH apply pH Plus (Soda Ash) and/or pH Minus (Acid) according to the label directions.

MAINTAINING CHLORINE RESIDUAL

The chlorine residual in the pool/spa is important for maintaining the overall health of the individuals in the pool as well as maintaining the life of the pool/spa itself. The chlorine levels in your pool should read between 1.0 and 3.0 ppm (parts per million). To adjust chlorine levels refer to the manufacturers guidelines on the chemicals used for your pool.

MAINTAINING CYANURIC ACID LEVELS

Cyanuric acid is a chlorine stabilizer that is present in many granulated chlorine products. It should be tested periodically and should not exceed 100 PPM. If it does, the pool must be partially drained and refilled to lower the levels. Excessive levels can interfere with the effectiveness of the chlorine.

*Document available in an alternate format upon request

OFFICES IN: RIVERSIDE, BLYTHE, CORONA, HEMET, INDIO, MURRIETA AND PALM SPRINGS

For more information call (888) 722-4234

Department Web Site – www.rivcoeh.org