

## **Closing an Above Ground Pool (without a main drain)**

- Chemically clean filter
- Chemically balance your water (adjust calcium hardness, alkalinity, and pH). \*Failure to balance these chemicals can lead to serious problems in the spring (ie; metal stains)
- If you use chlorine chemicals or the Frog system, add double the amount of shock that you would normally use. Then, add algaecide at the recommended rate for startup.

If using SoftSwim chemicals, add SoftSwim "C" (a double dose may be necessary), then, add SoftSwim "A" at a rate of 1 quart per 25,000 gallons of water. Wait 12-24 hours, test for "SoftSwim "B," and top off level.

If using Baquacil, add Baqua Shock (a double dose may be necessary), then, add Baquacil Algaecide at a rate of 5.25 oz per 10,000 gallons. Wait 12-24 hours, test for Baquacil and top off level.

If you are using EZ-Pool, add 3 lbs of EZ Pool per 10,000 gallons of water.

If you are using Pristine Blue, adjust the pH to 7.2, shock the pool, and let it run for 24 hours. Backwash. Test the Pristine Blue level and add as needed. A mid-winter test for the Pristine Blue is also recommended.

- Once chemicals have been added and allowed to circulate (preferably 12-24 hours), begin winterizing the plumbing lines.
- Remove the inlet from the wall fitting. Plug wall fitting with a threaded or expandable plug. Remove all plugs from pump, filter, chlorinator, etc. Place multiport valve on "winterize." If you do not have a setting marked "winterize," then place multiport handle between any two settings so that the handle stays slightly pressed down.
- Place cover on pool. Be sure to keep rainwater drained off of the cover or the weight` of the water may pull the cover into the pool.
- Take off all hoses and drain water below wall fitting. If you have a light in the pool, you may need to drain the water below the light. If the pool is hard plumbed with PVC pipe, disconnect the plumbing so that the water drains to the bottom of the skimmer.