

## **Closing an Above Ground Pool (with 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.
- Turn pump off. Close main drain and skimmer valves. Put multiport valve on "Closed." Cut the main drain line above the main drain valve. Attach winterizing tool onto the main drain pipe.
- Open the main drain valve and turn on your air compressor. Attach the end of the air compressor to the end of the winterizing tool.
- When the main drain begins to bubble with air, close the main drain valve and disconnect the air compressor.
- 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.
- Open skimmer valve and allow the water to drain below the skimmer (If you have a light, you may have to drain the water below the light.)