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Acqua Nita Services, Inc.

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Filtration systems; How they work.

The filtration equipment of your pool—the FILTER (filtration) and the PUMP (circulation) constitute what is known as your pool equipment. The pump draws water out of the pool, sends it to the filter, where any dirt and debris are trapped and removed, and forces only clean water back to the pool. The filter helps to keep your pool's water fresh and clean by removing oils, grease and dirt from the water. There are three basic types of pool filters:

- Sand Filters**—uses silica sand to trap and remove dirt and debris from the pool. It is the simplest to operate and maintain, the high-rate sand filter is the most popular type. Sand filters use layers of specially graded sand (#20 silica sand) to trap tiny particles (20-100 micron range). Over time, the collected dirt and debris in the sand slow down the water flow. An increase in the water pressure on your filter gauge is sign that the filter needs to be cleaned. Sand filters are cleaned by backwashing, which reverses the flow of water through the filter, lifting out the particles and pumping it out a waste line. As a sand filter collects dirt, its efficiency increases (to a point) to trap even more dirt so it's important not to backwash your sand filter more often than necessary. Chemical filter cleaners are also used to help keep a sand filter clean.
- DE (Diatomaceous Earth) Filters**—The most efficient type of pool filter on the market is the DE filter. However, along with the effectiveness comes increased maintenance and complexity. A DE filter contains diatomaceous earth, a fine white powder made from the chemically inert, fossilized remains of sea organisms called diatoms. This powder, which can filter our very small particles (1 to 5 microns), is held in place by grids or "elements". As water passes through the coated grids, particles are collected on the surface and clean water is returned to the pool. There are various methods of cleaning D.E. filters, including backwashing; in most cases the D.E. must be replaced whenever you clean the filter.

The filter is your pool's last line of defense against body oils and microscopic particles of dirt. It's important to use the proper type of filter for your model of pool.

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Pool & SPA Associations / Certifications

The state of Florida is the largest state in the pool and spa industry. The pool and spa industry in Florida has developed several associations to help, guide and educate the pool and spa professionals. The following are two very important associations:

Florida Swimming Pool Association (FSPA), founded in 1959, the largest and broadest pool and spa association in the world. It includes over 5,300 manufacturers, distributors, retailers, service companies and builders in the pool and spa industry. Committed to fair business practices and standards of health and safety excellence. Serves as industry educator, promoter, and information bank for the pool and spa professionals. All members must be properly licensed and insured. FPSP members adhere to a code of ethics in business and technical practices and share a strong commitment to the safe, healthful, and enjoyable use of industry products.

The FSPA serves as the coordinating organization for 16 local FSPA Chapters. FSPA provides government relations representation on behalf of its members to the Florida Building Commission and the Construction Industry Licensing Board as well as other legislative bodies that regulate the swimming pool industry in Florida such as the Department of Health.

Independent Pool & SPA Service Association, Inc. (IPSSA) was formed in 1988 as a result of a merger between IPSA and Cal-IPSA. Those two organizations were a part of the original association founded in 1961 for the purpose of pool service technicians banding together to help each other in times of illness and disability. IPSSA exists for the mutual professional benefit and growth



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Acqua Nita Services, Inc. specializes in customer care, offering a variety of services to cater for the diverse needs of our customers.

Our service technicians are NSPF Certified. Acqua Nita Services, Inc. is a member of Independent Pool & SPA Service Association, Inc. (IPSSA). Acqua Nita Services, Inc. is licensed by the County of Broward (CC# 03-11058-SP-X) to service / maintain your pool and also registered / licensed with the state of Florida (RP25254953).

For previous newsletters please visit our web site and go to services / archives.

Filters (Continued from Page 1)

- **Cartridge Filters**

Cartridge filters are the choice for most spas and many smaller above ground pools because they are easy to clean and have a low replacement cost. Cartridge filters use replaceable pleated filters made of polyester cloth or corrugated paper – like large oil filters – trapping particles as small as 10 microns. Instead of backwashing to clean, cartridges are removed, hosed off and soaked in a cleaning agent. Cartridges should be replaced when they show signs of wear or fail to maintain clear water in the pool. It's also a good idea to have an extra cartridge on hand to use while the other is being cleaned.

All filters work by the same general concept – water is passed through a media (sand, D.E. or cartridge), which catches microscopic particles, blocking them from entering back into the pool. Since the filter is the last line of defense in trapping debris, it is important to use the proper type of filter and clean it as necessary. Generally, when the pressure gauge on the filter increases 10psi above its normal operating level, it's usually a good time to clean your filter.

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of its members and for the continued improvement of the pool and spa industry's image.

Certified Pool-SPA Operator (CPO) program has delivered more training than any other program in the pool and spa industry since 1972. The CPO program is widely accepted by health departments. Educates pool professionals on local and state codes. All courses are taught by National Swimming Pool Foundation (NSPF) certified instructors. The CPO certification is recognized nationally and internationally. The CPO program is a 14-16 hour course instructed by a certified instructor for the education and certification of pool and spa operators, providing a front-line defense to protect the public.

