

SWIM!

Things to do before you can enjoy your pool

Summer is fast approaching which also means swimming season for many of us. If you have had a pool for a few years you're probably already an expert on the procedure to follow when opening it for the summer. However, if this is only your first or second time, here are a few reminders which you could find useful.

First of all, if you installed a cover over your pool at the end of last summer, you must first get rid of any dead leaves and accumulated water before removing it. After this, remove as much debris as possible from inside the pool with a leaf skimmer.

You are now ready to fill your pool. In order to be able to connect your pump, the pool has to be filled to the level of the skimmer. Remember that the earlier you connect your filter, meaning before the hot weather arrives, the easier and faster it will be to have nice, clear water. Many in-ground pool owners connect them before the snow has entirely disappeared. This has the added benefit of hastening the spring thaw.

During the first few hours of filtering, take the time to get out and put together your pool vacuum and prepare



accessories such as the filter basket, the thermometer and the pool ladder. The next step is to vacuum the pool to ensure that all the dirt has been removed before treating the water. After this first cleaning, remember to do a backwash in order to clean the filter of all the accumulated dirt and debris.

After about 3 or 4 hours, or the next day, add the chlorine and adjust the pH. If you opened your pool when the weather was already hot, a few algicide treatments could be necessary in order to eliminate algae formed by the sun.



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TRITON POOLS INC.

71 Mountainview Rd. N Unit#5

Georgetown

905-877-3660

tritonpools@bellnet.ca

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