

Board Leadership Newsletter

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What should you do once your pool closes for the season?

The swimming season is over, and your pool is closed. This is one of the most important times for your pool. As many of you know, pools are costly, and if they are not properly maintained and winterized the expense can increase exponentially the next season. **Here are some tips and suggestions that should help you to minimize your expense year to year.**

- Check to make sure the “Pool Closed” sign is posted on the entrance gate.
- Check to make sure the pool cover is right side up, rubber backings should be on the underside of the pool cover, not on the surface.
- **All** pool cover straps should be attached to the brass anchors that surround your pool.
- The cover should be free of rips, and tightly secured to the pool with minimal sagging in the center.
- All pool openings in the pool should have a plug in them, there should be no holes in the pool left open for water to access. Water is the enemy and should be completely out of your system.
- We are a company that uses antifreeze for winterizing, but some do not use antifreeze. Thus, it is crucial that all the PVC pipes are free of water which is accomplished by blowing air through these pipes, or what we commonly refer to as the lines (skim lines, equalizer lines, and drain lines).
- In the pool pump room make sure all valves are open, and plugs have been removed from PVC piping to allow for water to escape the system.
- Make sure all caps, plugs, and hair lint strainer baskets are placed in the same location to prevent items from getting lost. **We suggest the extra-large size zip lock bag to store everything appropriately.**

- Make sure the water is shut off to your pump room, and the valve controlling the main water source in the pump room is open.
- All water to the building should be shut off, and water meter disconnected.
- Ask your maintenance person, or your pool company for a list of items that need attention, or need to be purchased so you can plan for the next year so you limit the number of surprises that may pop up.
- If you have restrooms make sure the water lines have been blown out and are free of water.

Safety First: Pool covers – it is important to understand that the pool cover protects your pool’s surface and keeps debris out. However, the true purpose of the pool cover is safety. **Pools are considered an attractive nuisance, and a place where people are genuinely curious.** Thus, a pool cover prevents someone from falling into your pool, and potentially experiencing life-threatening injuries, and/or potentially death. Pool covers range in quality, and if properly maintained will be warranted by some manufacturers for up to ten years. Sure, they are expensive, but in the long run vital for your community’s protection.

I hope this information is helpful, and should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Frederick J. Inter, PhD
President/General Manager
Columbus Pool Management
Email: Fred.Inter@Columbus-pmg.com
Phone: (614)-554-0744

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