ALPHA POOLS

Why is my pool cloudy?

Your pool becomes cloudy when a large amount of tiny particles enter the pool. This can be from the following sources:

Human: Including sun cream, body lotions, hair products, perspiration, and other bodily fluids.

Chemical: Calcium carbonate and calcium hypochlorite.

Environmental: Algae, dust, red rain, plant debris, animal sources.

Very often it can be a combination of several of the above.

It is also often the case that the pool is simply not filtering for enough time to enable the water to be passed through the filtration system enough times to be cleaned. It may be that the filtration system is not operating efficiently and or needs to be repaired or attended to.

Make sure that both s the skimmer baskets and the pump basked is empty and free from debris, and that the filtration medium you are using is still efficient, and if not change it.

Make sure that swimmers always shower before entering the pool and that in the case of children who we obviously don't want to end up with sun burn their cream is applied for at least 20 minutes and then they are put in the shower to wash off the surplus that has not been absorbed before they swim. This will protect them much more than simply slapping on loads of sun cream protection that is going to be washed off into the pool the minute they enter the pool.

I am often asked well what can I do my children need to be protected, of course they do but equally you don't want their sun cream and protection to end up in the water making the pool cloudy!!

It seems a fairly obvious thing to say but insist on no peeing in the pool, and make sure that babies have adequate protection on the form of swimmers or similar.

The pool chemicals need to be balanced if the PH is over 7.8 the water will become cloudy, additionally at high levels the chlorine loses its ability to effectively destroy bacteria and algae, thus adding to the problem.

Similarly, if the total alkalinity is above 170ppm this can result in cloudy water.

Temperature can have an effect on calcium rich water areas as above 30 degrees it is harder to dissolve the calcium and therefore it falls out of solution and into suspension.

The good news is that it is fairly simple and quick to remedy most causes of cloudy water with the use of clarifiers and or flocculants. Use as directed for the volume of water in your pool and vacuum to waste after use and specified time.

If the cause is algae apply an anti algae treatment for the type of algae in your pool and follow the instructions above. We use an anti algae treatment in all of our pools during the summer months, when algae blooms are more prevalent.

Finally make sure that your pool equipment is running correctly and that it has enough chlorination from whatever source you use.