SPA PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE

A COMPLETE SPA CARE GUIDE

SPA WATER TESTING
SPA CHEMICAL PROGRAM
SPA CLEAN UP

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People all over the world are changing their attitudes toward exercise and physical health. More and more people are exercising, jogging, eating organic food, taking vitamins and are concerned about preservatives and their intake of hazardous chemicals. Your purchase of a spa demonstrates your sincerity, concern and current awareness of this new lifestyle. Your recreational activities and physical fitness program will now include your spa. There is no question that your investment enhances your home as well as adds value to your property. In addition to the material value there are also intrinsic values such as social entertainment, easing of stress and tension, and just quiet contemplation. Then there are the therapeutic benefits such as relieving aches and pain, increasing circulation in the cardiovascular system, and cleansing the skin and pores.

As is the case with anything of value, it must be properly maintained and cared for. This booklet is the result of many years of extensive laboratory and field testing. It is designed as an easy to follow guide as well as a total spa care program. With experience and understanding, your spa can be cared for and maintained by spending only 5 to 10 minutes of your time three times a week. It is important that you “visit” your spa at least this often. Remember that the best cure is prevention. The LEISURE TIME PROGRAM has been developed to prevent you and your spa from having any problems.

Before we discuss water chemistry and chemical programs here is a list of reminders:

1. Read the operational instruction manuals provided for each piece of equipment.

2. Read the entire LEISURE TIME SPA CARE AND MAINTENANCE guide.

3. Before filling your spa for the first time polish and protect it with SPA FAST GLOSS. This incredible new cleaner, polish and sealer contains reactive silicones instead of wax. SPA FAST GLOSS chemically bonds to the spa surface forming a durable high luster protective coat that will not allow water or chemicals to penetrate.

4. Make sure the water level in your spa is about in the center of the skimmer opening. If spa has no skimmer consult manufacturer’s manual for proper fill level. Equipment may be damaged from improperly filled spas.

5. The pump and filter should be operated for at least 2 hours each day, even if you do not plan to use it. If your spa has a time clock set it for 2 hours of operation.

6. DO NOT HEAT SPA OVER 104°F AS IT MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE SPA AND COULD BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH. A thermometer is supplied with the LEISURE TIME SPA PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE TOTE.
To assist you in testing your spa water for pH, TOTAL ALKALINITY and FREE AVAILABLE CHLORINE Leisure Time manufactures the SPA WATER STRIP TEST. Each plastic strip has been impregnated with a reagent dye on a small pad. When dipped in water the pads change color. By comparing these colors to a color chart you can determine the pH, TOTAL ALKALINITY and FREE CHLORINE values. There is nothing to mix, nothing to count and no sample to be taken. Simply dip the strip into your spa water and read the results. If adjustments to pH and alkalinity need to be made please refer to the “pH-TOTAL ALKALINITY Chart” in this booklet or on the side panels of LEISURE TIME SPA UP or SPA DOWN containers.

CHLORINE FOR SANITIZING
Neglected spas can be breeding place for bacteria. Tiny microscopic plants called algae can also be a problem if not controlled. By the time these bacteria and algae are visible there are hundreds of millions of them per gallon of water! Both bacteria and algae can be controlled by maintaining a proper FREE CHLORINE level. The proper FREE AVAILABLE CHLORINE level is 3.0 to 5.0 ppm (parts per million). The proper free available chlorine level is 3.0 to 5.0 ppm. (parts per million). This is the level recommended by the National Spa and Pool Institute in their publication “Minimum Standards for the Operation of Commercial and Residential Spas and Hot Tubs.” The ideal chlorine to use is LEISURE TIME SPA CHLORINE. It contains Sodium dichloro-s-triazinetriene, called “Sodium Dichlor.” This is a fast dissolving, stabilizes neutral granular type of chlorine that should be broadcast over the spa water surface. Use ½ ounce per 500 gallons of water. It is possible that some bacteria and algae can become resistant to chlorine levels of 3.0 to 5.0 ppm. Therefore we recommend that you Superchlorinate your spa every 1 to 2 weeks to make sure you have killed them all. To Superchlorinate add 1½ ounce of SPA CHLORINE per 500 gallons of spa water or follow Superchlorination directions on labels of other products.

CHEMICALS
It should be obvious by now that you are going to need a small supply of chemicals to get started. The LEISURE TIME SPA PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE TOTE is just what you need. It contains: a 16 ounce bottle of SPA BRIGHT AND CLEAR, a blend of organic polymers designed to neutralize and remove oil, soap and suspended particles, a 16 ounce bottle of SPA DEFENDER, a blend of organic polymers developed to keep calcium and scale from building up on spa finish and in plumbing and equipment, a 16 ounce bottle of SPA METAL GON, designed to prevent iron and copper in the water from staining the spa finish, a 16 ounce bottle of SPA FAST GLOSS, an incredible new reactive silicone cleaner, sealer and polish that chemically bonds to the spa finish, a 1 pound bottle of SPA CHLORINE to sanitize the water, a plastic
thermometer, a special SPA SCRUBBER SPONGE for cleaning your spa, and a bottle of 50 SPA WATER STRIP TESTS for testing your spa water – all conveniently packaged in an all weather, PLASTIC tote with handle.

THE LEISURE TIME 3 DAY A WEEK PROGRAM

Before you start, polish the spa using SPA FAST GLOSS. When filling spa for the first time or when you refill the spa add the entire contents of the bottle of SPA METAL GON. This product is called a sequestering agent and has been developed to prevent iron and copper in the water from staining your spa finish.

The important directions for keeping your spa bright, clear and sanitary are as follows: (Follow label directions on all products)

MONDAY

1. Test water using SPA WATER STRIP TESTS
2. Adjust pH and TOTAL ALKALINITY, (Please refer to pH & TOTAL ALKALINITY chart for use of SPA UP and SPA DOWN).
3. Add SPA CHLORINE to maintain 3.0 to 5.0 ppm
4. Add 2 ounces SPA BRIGHT & CLEAR per 800 gallons of water to clear the water and remove soap, oil and small particles.

Now that you have had a visit with your spa, relax and enjoy your spa.

WEDNESDAY: 1. Test water using SPA WATER STRIP TESTS
2. Adjust pH and TOTAL ALKALINITY, if necessary.
3. Add SPA CHLORINE to maintain 3.0 to 5.0 ppm
4. Add 2 ounces SPA DEFENDER per 800 gallons of water to prevent calcium build up on spa finish, plumbing and heating equipment.

Now that you have had a visit with your spa, relax and enjoy your spa.

FRIDAY: Repeat Monday’s program.

EVERY 2 MONTHS — DRAIN SPA, CLEAN, POLISH AND REFILL.

NOTE: If the pH-TOTAL ALKALINITY chart suggests that you add SPA DOWN — BE VERY CAREFUL! Use only one ounce of SPA DOWN at a time. This one ounce should be predissolved in a large PLASTIC bucket of water. Remember ALWAYS add SPA DOWN to water. Add diluted SPA DOWN to spa with all equipment turned off. Then turn on only the air blower to mix. If you do not have an air blower, mix by hand. After mixing, wait 3 minutes, then turn on filtration system for a normal cycle. Water may be retested after 20 minutes.
This program has been designed for an average spa with average usage. It is not designed for public, commercial or semi-public spas. If your spa is used by more than 2 people more often than 3 times per week for more than 2 hours you should check and make chemical additions more often than suggested. Be most careful to maintain 3.0 to 5.0 ppm FREE AVAILABLE CHLORINE at all times.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE, CLEAN UP AND PROBLEMS

If foaming becomes a problem, add 1-3 caps full of SPA FOAM DOWN directly to foaming area. SPA FOAM DOWN is a non oil base fast acting silicone emulsion designed to prevent foaming. This product only eliminates the foam temporarily. To actually remove the source of the foam, you should use SPA BRIGHT & CLEAR and SPA CHLORINE.

If a water line or "ring" develops, check to see if your skimmer is working properly. Then use a little SPA GLOSS on a clean dry cloth and wipe away. Buff area to bring back luster. SPA GLOSS is a specially developed polish designed to clean and protect your spa. Its waxes and silicones will not break down under the heat and water conditions of your spa.

1. Every 2 months drain spa, clean with SPA SCRUBBER SPONGE and mild solution of SPA CARTRIDGE FILTER CLEAN or your favorite non abrasive cleaner. Make sure to remove all soap and detergent. Use SPA FAST GLOSS, an excellent cleaner, sealer and polish to remove dirt, restore luster and protect spa finish. Refill your spa making sure to use SPA METAL GON upon refilling. This is an excellent time to check your filter as it may need to be cleaned.

2. At least once a week, check and clean the skimmer basket and the pump strainer basket to insure proper flow. Clean out all leaves, foreign matter and debris.

3. Once a week, check the pressure guage on the spa filter. If the pressure is 10 pounds per square inch (10 lbs./sq. in.) above normal or starting pressure then filter should be cleaned. If you own a cartridge filter, use SPA CARTRIDGE FILTER CLEAN to remove trapped soap, oil film, debris and dirt. Each 16 ounce bottle will clean up to 55 square feet of cartridge area. Add the bottle of SPA CARTRIDGE FILTER CLEAN to four gallons of water in a PLASTIC pail, place cartridges in solution, soak for three to six hours or overnight, hose off with high pressure nozzle and return cartridges to filter. If you have a diatomaceous earth (DE) filter, backwash filter when pressure is 10 lbs./sq. in. above normal or starting pressure. Make sure to replace the lost DE. If the filter grids need to be cleaned, consult owner’s manual for removal then use SPA CARTRIDGE FILTER CLEAN to clean grids.
If you have problems other than these listed, please consult your local Spa or pool dealer. He is a professional and knows the water in your area.

SPA BRIGHT & CLEAR
A blend of organic polymers designed for the hot water environment of spas and hot tubs. Neutralizes dirt and removes soap and oil. Particles are attracted to the polymers and then combine to form large enough particles to be trapped by the filtration system. Use 2 ounces per 800 gallons twice weekly.

SPA DEFENDER
A blend of organic polymers designed to prevent calcium from precipitating or causing scale build-up on spa surface or in equipment. Use 2 ounces per 800 gallons once weekly, on a day when you are not using Spa Bright & Clear.

SPA METAL GON
Effectively sequesters iron, copper and other metals from staining or depositing on spa finish. Use entire bottle when filling spa or when refilling.

SPA FAST GLOSS
An incredible new reactive silicone polish and cleaner. Actually reacts with spa surface making a chemical bond that protects the surface and restores its original luster. Helps prevent fading and oxidation. Great for acrylic and gel coat spas, cars, boats, airplanes, RV’s, fiberglass showers and waterslides.

SPA GLOSS
A highly effective, non abrasive cleaner and polish. Contains waxes that will not break down under heat, chlorine or continuous immersion in water.

SPA FOAM DOWN
A non-oily silicone base emulsion developed for the hot water environment of spas and hot tubs to control foaming. Use 3 caps full directly to foaming area.

SPA CARTRIDGE FILTER CLEAN
An excellent concentrated soaking solution specially developed to remove dirt, debris, oils, grease, soap, iron, calcium and copper from all makes of polyester cartridge filters and Diatomaceous Earth (D.E.) filters. Each 16 ounce bottle will clean up to 55 square feet of cartridge filter area. Also available in 32 ounce bottles, which will clean up to 110 square feet of filter area.
SPA CHLORINE
The perfect type of dry granular chlorine for sanitizing spas and hot tubs. Contains sodium dichloro-s-triazinetrione. Available in 2 pound child resistant containers.

SPA WATER STRIP TEST
Each dip and read plastic strip has 3 chemically treated pads for measuring pH, total alkalinity and free available chlorine. Just dip strip in water and compare results. No mixing, no measuring, no counting drops. Bottles of 50 strips.

SPA PREPARATION & MAINTENANCE TOTE
Each all plastic weather-proof tote contains: Spa Bright & Clear, Spa Defender, Spa Metal Gon, Spa Foam Down, Spa Fast Gloss (16 ounce bottles), 1 pound of Spa Chlorine, 50 Spa Water Strip Tests, Thermometer, Spa Scrubber Sponge. All uniquely packaged in a plastic tote with handle and then shrink wrapped. Tote also contains the Leisure Time Spa Care and Maintenance booklet of instructions for the spa owner.

HOT TUB PREPARATION & MAINTENANCE TOTE
Each all plastic weather-proof tote contains: 2 Spa Bright & Clear, 1 Spa Foam Down, 1 Spa Defender, 1 Spa Cartridge Filter Clean (16 ounce bottles), 1 pound of Spa Chlorine, 50 Spa Water Strip Tests, Thermometer, Spa Scrubber Sponge. All uniquely packaged in a plastic tote with handle and then shrink wrapped. Tote also contains the Leisure Time Hot Tub Care and Maintenance booklet of instructions for the hot tub owner.

SPA UP
Sodium Bicarbonate for raising pH and total alkalinity. Packaged in 2 pound containers.

SPA DOWN
Sodium Bisulfate for lowering pH and total alkalinity. Packaged in 2½ pound containers.

SPA ALGAECIDE
The first E.P.A. registered algaecide for spa and hot tub use. A non-foaming organic polymer that kills all types of algae, fungus and slime.

LEAK SEAL
Seals minor leaks in spas, pools and hot tub plumbing and fittings. Add to spa or pool water after removing or by-passing filter. Leak Seal finds the leak and seals it.
SPA AIR FRAGRANCE SYSTEM
The system uses the existing air blower to add fragrance to the spa environment. No more adding oils to the water. The system consists of a special adaptor that attaches to a standard 2" slip tee. The tee is mounted to the air blower line. A fragrance cap inserted into the adapter completes the system. Caps last up to 60 days of average spa use. When cap is exhausted replace with a new cap. No need for a new adaptor. Change fragrance in seconds. Fragrances available are: Lemon Up, Herbal, Floral and Wild Cherry.

PORTAPOOL FOUNTAINS
Converts pools or spas into a decorative fountain. Requires no electrical hook up. Attaches to the return line from the filtration equipment. Comes complete with float, Rain Jet fountain head, hose, fittings, quick disconnect, anchor and instructions. 1 year guarantee. Available in light blue or terra cotta.

LEISURE TIME CHEMICAL CORP is dedicated to the spa owner. We have pioneered the concepts, researched and developed new products specifically for spa use. We ARE the leader in spa products and technology. We offer assistance in using our products and helping you achieve our common goal . . . clean, safe water and the enjoyment of your spa.