



Dear Friend;

Do you suspect that you have a leak in your swimming pool? There are several causes for water loss in a swimming pool. An outdoor pool can lose up to a quarter of an inch per day due to evaporation. An indoor pool with a dehumidifier in the room can lose much more. Splashing and playing in the pool can also cause water loss. A little detective work may be necessary to determine if you have a leak or just normal water loss.

First, lets **go through the basics**. Is your pool cover off? Is your pool up and running? Is your liner floating? Spring brings us many surprises...not all of them good. Rain, snow and ice accumulating on a solid cover over the winter months can displace the pool water underneath. Pumping water off the cover is advisable, however if there are holes in the cover, you may pump water through the holes and out of the pool. Remove the solid cover, fill the pool and wait until after your pool is running for a time before evaluating water loss.

If your liner is floating due to **ground water**, the pool water can be pushed up and out of the pool. When the ground water subsides, the liner settles and it appears as if you have a leak.

Adjusting chemicals and vacuuming the pool in the early swim season may include **backwashing** to waste a lot more often. This will also lower the water level but is not a cause to worry.

After you have checked these items, and if you're still not sure if you have a problem, we suggest you do the **Bucket Test**. This is a simple way to help diagnose if you have a problem and if so where that problem might be. We have included the directions for this test on the attached sheet.

Also **note any drips, puddles or wet areas** on the deck, equipment area or yard around the pool. Your visual observations can save us time in determining the precise location of a leak. We can then proceed to do a pressure test to determine where plumbing leaks are located or possibly a dye test to determine liner or structural leaks. If major repairs or liner replacement is advisable, we will get you a timely estimate. Remember, **the dryer** the weather and yard, the better it is to make these determinations. So, you may wish to take advantage of the dry days when they come.

Please feel free to **call us** if you are experiencing any problems or if you need answers to any pool questions. If you suspect a leak or other problems and are scheduling an opening, be sure to **mention it** when you call.

Happy Spring from all of us at



The Bucket Test

- It is best to choose a couple days that are fairly dry and when the pool will not be in use.
- You will need any size bucket, a waterproof marker and tape.
- Fill bucket with water and place it on the deck next to the pool.
- Mark a line to indicate water level in the bucket. Now mark a line to indicate the water level in the pool (use tape on the pool liner).
- Run the pool for 24 hours and then check the water levels. Note any water loss.
- Remark the water level in the bucket and the pool.
- Now repeat the test for another 24 hours with the pool off. Again note any water loss.
- Check and record your findings. Water loss due to evaporation etc. should be equal in the bucket and the pool.
- If there is a greater loss of water when the system is ON then the leak is most likely in the return plumbing and/or in the equipment.
If the loss is greater with the system OFF, the leak is most likely in the suction plumbing.
If the loss is the same when ON or OFF, the leak is most likely in the pool liner or wall fixtures.
- This test is not an exact science and the results may be affected by many variables in and around your pool.
- NOTE: There is always the possibility that there are multiple leaks in the pool and equipment.