

# Pool Care Guide



Caribbean  
Blue<sup>®</sup>

Caribbean Blue chemicals and your authorized dealer can help you keep your pool the way you want it – clean and safe!

## Follow our 6 Keys and you will be on your way to perfect pool water.

### KEY 1 CLEAN

#### CIRCULATE AND FILTER

Water must circulate and filter everyday, a minimum of 12 hours. Consistent water movement keeps water clean by evenly distributing water care products throughout the pool. While filtering keeps water clear by removes wastes from swimmers and outside sources. Periodically your filter will need to be cleaned according to the manufacturer's instructions.

#### BRUSH AND VACUUM

*Brush or vacuum pool surfaces at least once a week.* Vacuum when there is dirt and debris in the pool, brush when there is not. Brushing pool surfaces lifts up invisible films that buildup on surfaces. Left untouched, these films will lead to a quicker depletion of the water care products added to the water. Additionally, brushing aids in eliminating circulation dead spots.



At the end of the season, use **All-In-1 Filter Cleaner** to prolong the life of the filter media

### KEY 2 FOREVER CLEAR ADVANTAGE – SAVE TIME!

#### EASIER POOL CARE STARTS HERE

**Forever Clear Advantage** is specially formulated to enhance water quality by improving filtration and controlling algae. Use of this product promotes sparkling, clear water and reduces eye and skin irritation for swimmers. It provides long-lasting algae suppression, controlling all types of algae found in swimming pools as well as aiding in the removal of existing stains. Forever Clear Advantage will:

- Reduce filter maintenance
- Prevent algae growth
- Reduce time to balance water

Not only will caring for the pool be easier, but the look and feel of the water will be second to none. Forever Clear Advantage is a product that solves problems before they start with an easy initial treatment. In many pools it only needs to be added at the beginning of the season.



### KEY 3 BALANCE – AS NEEDED

Maintaining pH, Total Alkalinity, and Calcium Hardness levels are vital in achieving the best water quality possible. Refer to the chart on the back cover for a quick summary of testing frequency and ideal ranges.

#### pH

pH is the most important factor in water balance as it measures water quality.

pH is simply a number scale between 0 and 14. Swimming pool water should be maintained between 7.2 – 7.6. Left outside these ranges, water quality is poor and problems can quickly arise.

- If pH is below 7.2, add **Aqua Prep 20** according to label instructions
- If pH is above 7.6, add **Aqua Prep 25** according to label instructions

#### Total Alkalinity (TA)

Total alkalinity's function in water is to be a pH buffer. In other words, alkalinity will help keep pH at ideal levels. Proper TA should be maintained in the range of 80 – 120 ppm.

- If TA is low, add **Aqua Prep 10** according to label instructions
- If TA is high (not typical) consult your Caribbean Blue authorized dealer.

#### Calcium Hardness (CH)

There needs to be enough minerals in the water to prevent damage to pool surfaces and equipment. Calcium is the best type of mineral to have in pool water. These levels should be maintained between 200 - 400 ppm.

- If CH is low, add **Aqua Prep 30** according to label instructions
- If CH is high (not typical) consult your authorized Caribbean Blue dealer



### KEY 4 REDUCE – ADD WEEKLY

#### OPTION #1

Algae is always being introduced to pools from rain, wind, and animals. Left unchecked, algae can turn your pool into a slimy mess overnight. Algae comes in many forms and in colors such as black, brown, or yellow. It is easier to control algae before it outbreaks, by adding an algae preventative continuously to the water.

**Forever Clear Algaecide** - Ideal for smaller pools and vacation treating water

**Algae Defence 60** - Concentrated and long lasting in water, best option for all pools

**Kill & Clear** - For the most protection in any pool



#### OPTION #2

When swimmers enter the water they introduce oils, lotions and other gunk. **Forever Clean** breaks down these introductions and when all of the materials are broken down, sanitizers and shocks last longer and work better, which results in cleaner water. You may even extend the period of time between filter cleanings.

## KEY 4 REDUCE – ADD WEEKLY

### OPTION #3

Some particles are so small that they pass right through the filter.

**Micro Clean** is a unique product that will bind microscopic particles in pool water together into larger ones. When this occurs, the filter removes these particles with ease. Once the filter has trapped these particles they can be removed from the pool's system by backwashing or cleaning the media.

Micro Clean doesn't discriminate against any physical material in the pool. Its powerful, pH neutral formula will help to remove any of these microscopic particles from the pool water. It will prevent many common pool water issues.



**Add one of the three options weekly and pool water will shine and be problem free.**

## KEY 5 SANITIZE – ADD DAILY

Pool water must be kept free from germs, bacteria, algae and other unwanted pathogens so everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience in the water. The addition of a sanitizer (sometimes referred to as disinfectant) to the water is how pool water remains clean. The addition of a sanitizer is an important factor to ensure water looks good, feels good, and has no odor.



**Any one of our Caribbean Blue Sanitizers must be added to the pool daily.**

**Chlor-Guard Tabs & Chlor-Guard Sticks** - High compression chlorine sanitizer tablets. Slowly deliver sanitizer to the water, so you can make less frequent water care trips to the pool.

**Forever Clear Tabs** - Same as above but, softens the water, helps keep pH at steady levels longer, and allows you to use less chlorine overall. For use in chemical feeder only.

**Chlor-Guard Granulars** - Ultra-fast dissolving granular concentrate, for those who prefer to precise dose their daily sanitizer.

**Bromine Tabs** - A chlorine alternative, delivers a consistent and reliable sanitizer to the water.

### For Chlorine Users

The biggest user of chlorine sanitizer in a swimming pool is the sun. When chlorine is added to the water, the sun's ultraviolet rays (UV) immediately starts to deplete chlorine from the pool. Adding **SunBlock** will keep chlorine in the water longer. More importantly, this simple step will save you money! Proper SunBlock (cyanuric acid) levels should be between 30 – 70 ppm.





When people use a pool, body oils, sweat, deodorants, cosmetics, and other wastes come from their bodies and become part of the water. Left untouched, these wastes and junk start to deplete the sanitizer. As a result, the water will start to become cloudy and smelly. Shocking the water is the process of adding any Caribbean Blue Brand Shock (sometimes referred to as an oxidizer) to remove these waste build-ups in water. Regular shocking of water ensures water stays clear and that sanitizer works well.

It does not matter which shock is added to the water, but you must add a Caribbean Blue Shock on a regular basis, usually weekly, to maintain clear water. Waiting to shock until the water become cloudy may result in more product needed to correct the problem.

**Use any Caribbean Blue Shock on a regular basis.** Add weekly, when the pool is used frequently and water is warm. Add every other week when the pool is used less use and the water is too cooler to swim.



### Microfloc Shock

Non-Chlorine Shock

- Oxygen based water cleaner
- More powerful than chlorine to clean pool water.
- Swim again 15 minutes after use.

### Tidal Wave 73

- Contains chlorine
- Low Residue
- Fast Dissolving
- High potency



### Simply Shock & Swim Extra

This shock sanitizes, shock-oxidizes, clarifies, and keeps a steady pH.

- Contains chlorine
- Buffered Shock Treatment

# POOL PROBLEMS? WE HAVE SOLUTIONS!

## What should I use if I have metals in the water?

Scale & Metal Solution effectively inhibits metals from causing stains and discoloration by crystallizing the metal particles. Some particles can be filtered out, others are then harmless. Additionally, Scale & Metal Solution will remove unsightly metal stains and scale deposits from pool surfaces and equipment. Scale & Metal Solution, when used on a maintenance schedule, will prevent these issues from reoccurring in your pool.

## What should I do if my pool goes cloudy?

Ask yourself if you have shocked the pool recently and enough relative to how much rain there has been or how much use the pool has been used.

Check the filter and make sure it is operating according to manufacture's instructions. The filter media inside does need to be replaced occasionally.

- Add **Forever Clear Clarifier** for light cases of cloudy water.
- Add **Super Drop Out** if the cloudy water is extensive and have a sand filter.



## What should I do if I have a bad case of algae?

- 1) Identify the algae color
- 2) Determine the amount of growth
- 3) Choose and add the best algacide for your situation

### TYPES OF ALGAE:

**Green, Green/Blue:** These algae are the most common in pool water and typically the easiest to control and eliminate. Usually, cloudy water accompanies their growth.

**Yellow/Brown:** This algae, has a wispy appearance and is often referred to as Mustard algae. Chlorine alone typically does not rid a pool of yellow algae. Instead, a specialty algacide must be used for successful removal.

**Black:** Typically appearing as spots, black algae is one of the more difficult algae to remove. A coating forms over the algae to protect it from treatment products. Vigorous brushing of the trouble area must occur to help remove black algae.

### TREATMENTS:

**Mustard Out** - Best option for mild cases of yellow and mustard algae in swimming pools.

**Kill & Clear** - A unique algae killer and clarifier to quickly eliminate the problem, while clearing the water fast.

**Knock Out** - Similar to above, but further concentrated for use on all algae types no matter how bad the pool is.



# Preparing for summer or winter, Caribbean Blue will make it easier

## OPENING THE POOL

If needed, add water to the pool to raise it to the proper operating level. Once the water level is up, start circulating the pool water. Circulate pool water for 24 hours before the first test of the season. Correct the water balance and cyanuric acid levels, as indicated on the last page. Then:

- Add any **Caribbean Blue Shock** to start the pool off fresh. If using a chlorinated shock, allow levels to retreat below 5 ppm before the next steps.
- Apply **Micro Clean** or **Algae Defense 60** or to keep pool clear all year
- When high levels of metals or calcium are present add **Scale & Metal Solution** to prevent issues from forming
- Add **Forever Clear Advantage** to the pool in at least two separate dosages. This step will make water care a breeze for the rest of the year!

## CLOSING THE POOL

- Have the water tested by your local dealer.
- Resolve any current water problems, such as algae or cloudy water, before closing the pool.
- At any time during the pool closing, brush, vacuum, and clean the pool.
- Balance the pool water's pH, Total Alkalinity, and Calcium Hardness. In other words, get the water balance factors in their ideal ranges.
- Add any **Caribbean Blue Shock**. Double dose if pool is closed longer than three months.
- For an extra layer of protection, add **Forever Clean** or **Micro Clean** to the pool.
- If the pool is equipped with a sand filter, clean it with **All-In-One Filter Cleaner** before you lower the water level.
- If applicable, lower the water level of your pool. See your local pool dealer if you have any questions.
- If the pool is equipped with a cartridge or DE filter, clean the filter pleats or grids with **All-In-One Filter Cleaner**.

## Optimal Water Factors

	Test Frequency	Ideal Range	Too Low	Too High
pH	2 – 3 times weekly	7.2 – 7.6	Damages equipment and surfaces Rapid loss of chlorine Eye and skin irritation Corrosive water	Cloudy water Ineffective sanitizer Forms scale Eye and skin irritation
Total Alkalinity	Once weekly	80 – 120 ppm	Low or high alkalinity will cause fluctuations in pH and has the same detrimental effects as low or high pH.	
Calcium Hardness	Once monthly	200 – 400 ppm	Damages equipment and surfaces Corrosive water	Damages equipment and surfaces Forms scale
Cyanuric Acid (Stabilizer)	Once monthly	30 – 50 ppm	Rapid loss of chlorine	See your dealer

Pool Care at a Glance	Traditional Care	Low Chlorine Program
Optimize <b>Once</b>	<b>Forever Clear Advantage</b>	<b>Forever Clear Advantage</b>
Sanitize <b>Daily</b>	<b>3" Chlor-Guard Tabs</b>	<b>Forever Clear Tabs</b>
Shock <b>Weekly</b>	<b>Simply Shock &amp; Swim Extra</b>	<b>Microfloc Shock</b>
Clear Pool <b>Weekly</b>	<b>Micro Clean</b> or <b>Algae Defence 60</b>	<b>Forever Clean</b>

Your local Caribbean Blue Dealer

