



Know Algae, No Algae

Let's talk about algae. Regular maintenance with PristineBlue normally keeps pools algae free. But what if you miss a cycle or forget to winterize with PristineBlue? Weather changes can also be a factor. For "no algae," it helps to "know algae." Here are some guidelines for spotting and treating four common infestations:



- 1. Green algae** - feels slimy. It may attach to walls, bottoms and steps or float freely.

Treatment:

- a. Brush the sides of the pool and run the filter constantly through the treatment process.
- b. Shock the pool with 1 lb. of PristineExtra per 10,000 gallons of water.
- c. Filter for 24 hours, then backwash and clean the filter.
- d. Repeat the process as necessary.
- e. Balance your water when it is clear.

- 2. Black algae** - appears more often in concrete and plaster pools than in vinyl pools. It grows in cracks and crevices in shady areas of the pool often in clusters of black or blue/green dots.

Treatment:

- a. If you have a concrete pool, use a wire brush to break open the husks of the algae. A softer brush should be used on vinyl pools to prevent damaging the vinyl.
- b. Wear protective gear to rub chlorine tablets or chlorine sticks over the newly opened husks. A sock filled with granular chlorine will do in a pinch.
- c. Clean a cartridge filter, backwash a sand filter, or bump a DE filter.
- d. Shock your pool with 2 lbs. of PristineExtra per 10,000 gallons of water.
- e. Filter for 24 hours.
- f. Repeat the process as necessary.
- g. Balance your water.

- 3. Mustard algae** - looks like dirt or sand. It has a yellow-green color and collects on the bottom or side of your pool. If it feels gritty, it is probably dirt. If it feels slimy, it is algae.

Treatment:

- a. Drop pH slowly down to 7.0
- b. Top off your PristineBlue level.
- c. Shock with 2lbs. of PristineExtra per 10,000 gallons of water.
- d. Brush the sides and bottom of pool daily.
- e. Keep filtering and watch the pump pressure.
- f. Treat all pool items and toys by placing them in the pool.
- g. Repeat the process as necessary.
- h. Restart your two-week maintenance schedule after the algae has been removed.

- 4. Pink 'algae'** - (Pink Slime) is not algae but bacteria. It is pink and slimy (surprise!). It usually appears in crevices or corners.

Treatment:

- a. Remove all visible algae and brush all surfaces.
- b. Check PristineBlue level and top off if necessary.
- c. Shock with 2lbs. of PristineExtra per 10,000 gallons of water.

Still have questions? Contact our Certified Pool Technicians. We're ready to help!

Don't Forget About Extended Customer Service Hours!
 Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. CST
 Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. CST

Five Tips for a Safe Swim Season

Now is a great time to think about water safety. Spring is in full swing and pools are starting to open. May is also Drowning Prevention Month. To increase awareness and prevention, we've compiled five tips for a safe swim season:

- 1. Security:** Pools should be fully enclosed by a fence at least four feet high with a locked gate. Teach children to never climb fences or open gates. This will prevent them from getting into the pool area without supervision.
- 2. Safety:** Inspect pool equipment regularly, especially pool covers and drain covers. Broken drain covers can allow swimmers to get trapped by suction. If you find a broken cover, call a professional to fit a new, anti-entrapment cover.
- 3. Supervision:** Keep a constant eye on swimmers. Drowning only takes a few minutes and can happen silently. Inexperienced swimmers should always have someone in the water in touch-contact with them. Have a phone handy for emergencies but silence it and stow it in a bag to avoid distraction.
- 4. Swim Lessons:** Enrolling children in swim lessons will help them build strength and confidence. They'll also learn basic swim safety rules. Lessons are no substitute for supervision, though! Even experienced swimmers can drown.
- 5. CPR:** If an accident does happen, conducting CPR while waiting for the ambulance can save a swimmer's life. CPR classes are available through community centers, the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.



Cloud Control

Got cloudy water? PristinePower is a great solution! Here are some situations where PristinePower can help:

Between Maintenance - Clear-up cloudy water issues between scheduled maintenance days.

Quick Touch-Ups - Get your water sparkling clear before a swim. PristinePower allows bathers to reenter the water quickly. When used according to label instructions, bathers can enter the water after just 15 minutes.

Oxidizing the Yuck - Oxidize and eliminate oily particles left behind from sunscreens, beauty products and sweat that build up in your pool.

