



The Pool & Hot Tub Alliance is the industry's leading source of information for pool operations, maintenance, design and construction

Keep Your Pool Healthy

Addressing the Trichlor Shortage

This Spring, media reports about a chlorine “shortage” have created concern among pool owners about their ability to properly maintain and operate their pools.

According to these reports some chlorine tablets (tabs), which – due to a combination of events that include a surge in demand for pools in 2020 and a chemical plant fire – are scarcer than in previous years. However, we are not aware of any substantial disruptions in the supply of chlorine in liquid, powder, and other tablet forms.

In the event of the scarcity of certain products service professionals and pool owners should consider using other EPA-registered pool sanitizers such as liquid chlorine, calcium hypochlorite, or dichlor. Make sure to keep these products in their original container and store them as indicated on the label. Other strategies to assist in maintaining safe pool water include:

1. Don't use your pool as a bathtub. Shower before swimming and keep your pets out of the pool.
2. Shock the pool only when the combined chlorine levels are above 0.4 ppm and use either liquid chlorine, calcium hypochlorite, or a monopersulfate product to shock the pool.
3. Run the pool filter daily.
4. Test the water frequently and keep the water balanced.
5. Install a UV or ozone system - note, a small amount of chlorine is still needed.
6. Convert to a salt pool.
7. Install a mineral system. Please note, this may increase pool surface stains.

Other companies may offer additional alternatives, so please be sure to discuss your options with your pool service company or vendor.

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