

Bell Leisure

SWIMMING POOLS

Established 1975
London Road (A24), Ashington, West Sussex, RH20 3BT.
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WATER SAVING FACT SHEET

Southern Water is to bring in restrictions on water use for the first time since 2005/6, following the second driest 12 months on record. The restrictions, which will include the use of hosepipes and sprinklers, come into effect from April 5 for customers in Kent and Sussex. We have put together a list of water saving tips for swimming pools affected by the drought order imposed.

1. Use a Pool Cover.

Without a swimming pool cover, more than half the water in your pool can possibly evaporate in one year. We have estimated that evaporation will account for approximately 3mm per day; this equates to 220 litres based on a domestic pool measuring 40' by 20', with water depth from 3ft 6" to 7ft 6", or 12.2 m by 6.01 m with water from 1.01 m to 2.29m. The volume of such a pool is 121 cubic metres and the surface area is 73.3 square metres.

Other benefits of a pool cover.

- A pool cover can reduce the need to use more chemicals.
- Pool covers help to reduce algae growth.
- Pool covers help conserve heat, which can save money for heating costs.

2. If Your Pool is Heated, Lower the Temperature.

If you have a pool heater, try reducing the temperature during the summer. Doing so reduces the occurrence of water loss to evaporation, and is especially important when the pool isn't being used. Better yet, use a pool cover.

3. Backwash Pool Filters Only When Necessary.

Obviously, backwashing filters uses extra water. Keep the pool clean to reduce the frequency of backwashing. Only backwash long enough for the water in the sight glass to run clean. Backwash in the normal manner for approximately 2 minutes fortnightly with an approximate water discharge of up to 1,000 litres.

4. Reuse Backwash or Dechlorinated Waste Pool Water on Lawns & Shrubs

Empty the filter backwash onto lawns and shrubs or collect it to reuse. Speak to your pool specialist regarding fitting another backwash line to the lawn or shrubs.

5. Fix All Leaks

Needless to say the most common loss of water in a pool is when it leaks. If you feel your pool is leaking contact Bell Leisure Swimming Pools immediately and we can offer a full diagnosis and repair service.

6. Fill Pool from a Tanker.

Water can be abstracted by companies from other areas and brought in by tanker to fill the pool. Costs for receiving a tanker with 10m³ (or 10,000 litres) of water will vary depending upon the location, with more remote sites potentially costing more than other areas. But prices are likely to be in the range of £300 - £400 (inc VAT).

- An option may be to hire a water bowser.

SPECIALISTS IN: SWIMMING POOLS & HOT TUBS

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7. Use a secondary filter

Supply a cartridge filter to temporarily replace the sand filter, or in some instances it may be appropriate to use both.

8. Drill a bore hole

Under the Water Act 2003, it is currently legal for a land or house owner to drill a bore hole and extract up to 20,000 litres of water per day, without needing a licence. However, you do need to apply for Section 32 consent and the actual form (called WR 32) is available from the Environment Agency by emailing PSCWaterResources@environment-agency.gov.uk. There is no cost for the consent, but you may be asked to undertake a survey of the water features in your local area (such as other people that have boreholes) but you will be given advice by the Environment Agency.

NEW BUILD, RENOVATION AND LINER REPLACEMENT

- When replacing liners or doing repairs, re-cycle the water via a holding tank.
- Consider installing rainwater harvesting tanks, this may be even more relevant for a new build as the underwater tanks can be planned as part of the overall design. The water will need to be filtered and treated before being used in the pool.

SPATA advises its members to discuss other water saving options with distributors who may have other suggestions for how they can help your customers reduce water consumption and SPATA will be liaising with the relevant Government department (DEFRA) and also the Environment Agency to update this factsheet for members when it is aware of any changes.

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