

Safe Storage and Handling of Swimming Pool Chemicals

Safe Storage Design

- Store pool chemicals in a cool and dry location away from heat, direct light, doors, windows, flammable materials, and water. Comply with building codes.
- Store each chemical separately and in the original container, in a location with adequate lighting for reading labels on containers.
- Keep chemicals off the floor and store chemicals on anchored shelves with lips, or on pallets to prevent chemical containers from falling.
- Store only identical chemicals above or below each other. This prevents chemical mixing, in case of a leak.
- Keep chemicals in a locked storage area to limit access, especially to children and animals.

Safe Handling

- Read product label and directions before each use. **Follow manufacturer's instructions.**
- Use clean and dry Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and a separate tool for handling each chemical.
- Keep water away from all chemical containers to prevent accidental mixing of water and chemicals.
- Clean-up pool chemical spills immediately. Consult your local fire department for guidance.
- Dispose of deteriorating, unwanted, or unlabeled pool chemicals safely. Contact your local hazardous waste disposal facility for more information.

Adjusting Chemical Levels

- Know your pool chemical levels before making an adjustment. Test pool water and adjust pool chemistry with products that are not expired.
- Always add a pool chemical to water. Never add water to a pool chemical.
- Dissolve solid chemicals (tablets, powders or crystals) in water before adding to pool water.
- Follow protective measures such as wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and using clean and dry tools to handle chemicals.

Emergency Response

- If victim has difficulty breathing:
- Move victim to fresh air.
 - Call 9-1-1.
- If chemical comes in contact with eyes:
- Flush eyes with running water.
 - Call 9-1-1.
- If chemical comes in contact with skin:
- Remove any contaminated clothing.
 - Flush skin with running water.
 - Call 9-1-1.

For more information, go to
www.health.ny.gov/environmental/chemicals/