

PHOSPHATES

in pool water

Phosphates lead to growth of algae and pathogens.

Not treating the issue will lead to more chlorine consumption, more frequent filter cleaning and a higher risk of algae blooms. Phosphates get into pool water from many of the following sources and create numerous problems:

- Leaves, dust, insects, fertilizers, skin shed by bathers, products like suntan lotions and moisturizers, hair care products, beverages, etc., all contribute phosphates.
- Many municipalities put phosphates in the water system to inhibit metal pipe corrosion, causing pool fill water to often contain lots of phosphate. Surprisingly, quite a few pool chemicals contain phosphates, too.
- These phosphates are constantly being made available to algae and pathogens to help them thrive. Even when too small to see, algae colonies and biofilm in pipes create a high demand for chlorine.
- Phosphates also contribute to pool scum at water lines and to salt chlorine generator scaling. To get clean and healthy pool water, phosphate levels must be kept low. This has always been the case but only recently was phosphate recognized as the cause of many common problems.

