

# **FILTER SAND CHANGE**

1. Remove the plug located at the bottom of your filter and drain all excess water. Remove sand from the filter with a wet / dry vacuum. It is an advantage to keep the sand wet, about the consistency of a slushy while doing so. Rinse the filter out with clean water and **carefully inspect the laterals and hub assembly, and replace broken or cracked parts as necessary.**
2. Carefully position stand pipe with the hub and laterals directly in the center of the tank, standing straight up. Place a plug, cap, or zip lock bag over top of stand pipe to keep new sand from entering the pipe when you put new sand in. Put enough water in the tank to cover the laterals, then start adding the correct amount of new 20/40 silica sand (**ask your pool professional about the correct amount of sand for your particular filter.**)
3. Reinstall the multiport valve and reconnect any plumbing that has been disconnected. Place multiport valve on backwash and prime pump. Start pump and backwash filter until sight glass is clear. Shut pump off and rotate multiport valve to rinse and re-start pump. Run pump until sight glass is clear again. Turn pump off and rotate multiport valve to filter position and re-start pump.
4. You have now successfully changed the sand in your filter.

# ROUTINE BACKWASHING

It is important not to backwash a sand filter too often. There is a mindset that more is better when backwashing to keep the water clear. Studies show this is not true, and that a minor amount of dirt across the top layer of sand actually improves the filter's capabilities. As the dirt coats the sand bed, it helps trap fine material and reduce the cloudiness that results from small micron debris. Filter manufacturers will tell you that the dirtier the sand becomes, the more efficient it is.

**So, only backwash the filter when the filter gauge rises in pressure 10 to 15 lbs above normal.** To find the normal operational pressure for your filter, check the gauge **after backwashing and re-starting your pump**. The reading the gauge has at that time is the normal operating pressure. When the pressure increases to 10 – 15 lbs above normal it's time to backwash again. If your gauge does not fall to 0 when the pump shuts off, you should replace it ASAP.

