

# HIGH CYANURIC ACID (CYA) or Stabilizer/Conditioner

What is Cyanuric Acid/Stabilizer? Cyanuric Acid (CYA) or Stabilizer is necessary to restrict the loss of chlorine due to the sun's UV rays and thereby saving on chlorine use and cost.

## **What is a NORMAL level for CYA?**

Recommended levels are 20-50 ppm. Most pools should operate around 20-30 ppm. Public pools are required by the Health Department to shut down with CYA levels above 100 ppm, and drain and refill the pool with fresh water.

## **What is the problem with high CYA levels?**

High CYA levels make your chlorine completely inactive, locking it up so it's not effective fighting bacteria, fecal matter, cryptosporidium, giardia, algae, and other pool contaminants. Pool owners will also experience low pH levels and alkalinity (which helps control your pH) which can lead to structural damage, system failures, extreme red eye and itchy dry skin. Because CYA interferes with testing, homeowners will obtain incorrect pH and alkalinity results with drop or test strip methods.

## **What causes high CYA levels?**

While most 3" chlorine tablets contain small levels of CYA, the most common cause of high CYA levels are chlorine shock and granules that contain Sodium DiChloroisocyanurate, (or DiChlor) and most recently, all products manufactured using the brand name Clorox.

## **How do I lower or reduce my CYA levels?**

There is no chemical to lower CYA levels. The only method is to drain your pool by a proportionate amount and refill with fresh water.

## **How can I prevent CYA high levels moving forward?**

Use chlorine shock containing Calcium Hypochlorite (cal hypo).

You can also use 3" tablets with no CYA – these include:

**Poolife NST Tablet & Sustain 3-Part System** or convert to a salt pool.

Consult with Pools Patios & Porches as to which product will fit your needs the best.

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