

Oasis Pool & Garden Centres Inc.

**2029 Lansdowne Street West, Cavan Monaghan,
Ontario K9J 0G5**

Tel: (705) 741-0555

Fax: (705) 741-4244

Tips on How to Find a Leak

1. Check Backwash Hose. Sometimes even with the filter dial valve set to “Filter”, water will continue to leak out the backwash hose. This can be easily fixed by adding a ball valve to the backwash port of the dial valve.

2) **Brush the Walls & Floor.** Using your wall brush, slowly brush over the entire liner surface. As you are brushing, look for what could be “Small Imperfections” in the liner. A small imperfection, could look like a small dimple in the liner, or a small pocket of air (or water) under the liner. If you find any such spot on the liner, you can use either the red dye, from a pool test kit, or simple red food coloring to test this spot. Basically, you take the bottle of red food coloring, and get right beside the spot that you suspect could be the leak, (1-3 inches away from the suspect spot), and release a few drops of red food dye. If this spot is in fact leaking water, then the dye, will get sucked into the leak. A leak in the liner can be fixed using a patch with glue that is designed for underwater use.

3) **Jets & Skimmer & Main Drain.** If you do not find any spots in the liner that you suspect are leaking, the next step would be to use the same red dye technique around the face plates of the jet, and the skimmer. Note that you will have to turn your pool pump off for this test. The skimmer can be harder to test, as it is normally not completely submerged in water. Not every pool has a Main Drain. A Main Drain is a fitting in the very bottom portion of the deepest part of an inground pool, and it can also be found in the very centre of the floor of some above-ground pools. The Main Drain fitting is approximately the size of a dinner plate, and it is connected to your pools pump and filtration system. This same red dye technique can also be used on inground pools that have a built-in step.

4) **Underground Plumbing.** If you cannot find a leak in any of the areas mentioned above, this leaves the underground plumbing. Turn your pump off and remove the eyeball from your return fitting, and install your winterizing plug. Leave the pool overnight. If the pool appears to stop leaking then the leak could be in one of the underground lines. You should hire a pool professional to “Pressure Test” the underground line, to confirm that a) it is in fact an underground line that is leaking, & b) which underground line is leaking.

Common Misconception

Many people believe that the leak in their pool must be at a certain height in the liner, because it appears that the pool has stopped leaking. This is not necessarily true. If you think of a plastic cup with a small hole in the side of the cup close to the bottom. Now when the cup is full of water, it will leak out faster, because there is more weight pushing down toward the bottom of the cup. As the cup begins to have less water the rate of water leaking out will slow.