Chadwell SUPPLY

TRICHLOR SHORTAGE FAQ

SPRING 2021

A Blessing in Disguise

CHANGE CAN BE GOOD—MAKING THE SWITCH TO CAL-HYPO

The Trichlor chlorine shortage started as a disaster. But for your property's pool and your bottom line, the temporary shortage forcing the use of alternatives to Trichlor may ultimately be a blessing.

What products are affected?

All of the Trichlor and Dichlor products that Chadwell Supply carries are affected. While production has resumed in a very limited capacity, availability is challenging. We are working closely with our suppliers and endeavor to maintain a steady stock of at least one of the Trichlor options through the 2021 pool season. However, stock will be limited, is not guaranteed and purchase limits may also be imposed.

PRODUCTS AFFECTED

LIMITED SUPPLY

3" Trichlor Tablets
361038 - 25 lb
361037 - 50 lb

Trichlor Sticks
361036 - 50 lb

Dichlor Granular
361011 - 25 lb

TRICHLOR ALTERNATIVES

Dichlor Granular
361011 - 25 lb

Liquid Chlorine
361009
1 Gal, 4/CS

Cal-Hypo Granular
361005 - 68%, 100 lb
361010 - 47%, 90 lb

What are the alternatives?

1. **Dichlor** is an alternative to Trichlor but it is very expensive and production has been halted for the remainder of the 2021 season.
2. **Liquid chlorine** is a cost-effective alternative but maintaining the pool will require large amounts of liquid chlorine and constant maintenance. Jugs of liquid chlorine take up a lot of space and it breaks down quickly and becomes less effective the longer it sits in a bottle—especially in a hot storage area.
3. **Calcium Hypochlorite** or **"Cal-Hypo"** does not have the stabilizer component found in Trichlor so it also requires daily maintenance and monitoring. It is packaged in either a concentrated granular form, or a tablet that can be used in a designated Cal-Hypo feeder. These cost-effective, concentrated forms make it easier to store and work with than liquid chlorine.

Why is the shortage a blessing?

The limited availability of Trichlor this pool season is a great opportunity to reset and save your multifamily pool from potential damage from calcium deficiency. You have likely been using more chemicals than necessary to sanitize the water for years. Consider switching to Cal-Hypo as a detox for your pool.

- Unless you test, monitor and add calcium when needed, most pools that use Trichlor will be starving for calcium. Without sufficient calcium in the water, the pool can begin to pull it from the sides of the pool, resulting in etching and erosion of the pool surface.
- If you have been a long-time Trichlor user, there is a good chance the cyanuric acid (stabilizer) levels in your pool will be more than enough to keep the Cal-Hypo sanitizer from evaporating. High cyanuric acid levels may be sufficient to help your pool get through the season without needing additional stabilizer. Using Cal-Hypo may help to decrease potentially dangerous cyanuric acid levels[1].

[1] *Many state and local codes are starting to take note of the increases in cyanuric acid and will close pools in excess of 100ppm. Moving to Cal-Hypo can help these levels return to acceptable 30-50ppm.*

TRICHLOR RESULTS IN:

↑ HIGH ACID
⊘ NO CALCIUM

CAL-HYPO RESULTS IN:

↓ LOW ACID
↑ HIGH CALCIUM

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WARNING!

DO NOT put Cal-Hypo in your Trichlor feeder, no matter if it is granular or tablet. It will cause a toxic, dangerous release of chlorine gas, that could result in injury or an explosion.

What do you need to know to use Cal-Hypo?

As a general rule, do not add anything to your pool without testing the water first to determine what is needed. *You can't know what your pool needs if you don't test!*

If sanitizer is needed, when using granular Cal-Hypo, dissolve it in a little bit of pool water and then add it to the pool. Alternatively, you can manually distribute[2] (broadcast spread) the Cal-Hypo in the water around the sides of the pool.

If your pool system uses a DE filter and you'd like a long-term solution, a Cal-Hypo[3] feeder (#361017) that uses Cal-Hypo tablets (#361014) can be installed as part of your system.

[2] Verify with your local and State Health Department regulations whether manual distribution is allowed and how long after adding Cal-Hypo you must wait to open the pool. [3] Cal-Hypo feeders cannot be installed on sand filter systems.

What do you need to do EVERYDAY?

1. Test the water daily (or as often as needed)
   - Chlorine
   - pH
   - Alkalinity
   - Calcium (tested every 2 weeks to monthly)
   - Cyanuric Acid (tested weekly)
2. Mix Cal-Hypo with small amount of pool water in bucket
   Always add chemicals to water, never water to chemicals!
3. Add Cal-Hypo mix (and other chemicals as needed) to pool
4. Wait for water to cycle and retest[4]

[4] Stabilizer does not register for three to five days after it is added to the pool. Retest after a few days. Do not be too quick to add more stabilizer.

Taylor Test Kit
362014

WATER CHEMISTRY GUIDELINES

PARAMETER	IDEAL
Sanitizer / Free Chlorine	2.0 - 4.0 ppm
pH	7.4 - 7.6
Total Alkalinity	80 - 120 ppm
Calcium Hardness	200 - 400 ppm
Stabilizer / Cyanuric Acid	30 - 50 ppm

Adapted from PHTA B-1 Water Chemistry Guidelines

What is Chadwell Supply's long-term recommendation?

The production of Trichlor should eventually return to normal and stock availability will no longer be an issue. However, once you have taken advantage of these months to bring your pool back into balance, consider a rotating schedule of Trichlor and Cal-Hypo.

Many multifamily properties have found the ease of Trichlor to be a benefit during a busy pool season. However during the cooler fall and winter season, when the pool is not in use, we recommend that you take a break from the constant addition of cyanuric acid and use Cal-Hypo for those months to help maintain proper water chemistry.

For more information and help maintaining your pool, visit ChadwellSupply.com/product-knowledge
To learn how to earn the Certified Pool Operator (CPO) designation, visit ChadwellSupply.com/university