

## SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

### Trap

Jose's kids have been waiting for the warm weather to jump into the backyard pool. Because of lack of use during the cooler months, the pool looked green and in need of attention. Jose heard his neighbors talk about the high cost of pool service contracts and problems with unnecessary repairs. The last thing he wants is to get ripped off! Should he do the job himself or is he better off hiring a professional?

### Tips

Before you hire a pool maintenance company, consider these tips:

- Pools require routine maintenance. The water should be tested regularly, chemicals added, pool vacuumed, filters cleaned, fittings inspected for leaks and the pump operation checked.
- Pool maintenance and repair contractors are certified to maintain and treat the water in your swimming pool, spa or hot tub. They can also make minor repairs to existing pool masonry and perform preventive maintenance on equipment such as filters and chlorinators. To confirm a contractor is certified, call the Palm Beach County Contractors Certification Division at 561-233-5530 or visit <http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb/Contractors>.
- If you decide to have a certified pool maintenance company provide the service, get at least three quotes for the work (one time job or on a regularly scheduled basis for maintenance) and ask for the quote in writing.
- Retail stores specializing in pool supplies have the products necessary to keep your pool in top notch swimming condition are often willing to guide you through the steps. Many will even test your pool water for free if you bring in a sample!

**For more information OR to file a complaint, contact  
Palm Beach County Consumer Affairs at 561-712-6600  
(Boca/Delray 888-852-7362 toll free)**

[www.pbcgov/consumer](http://www.pbcgov/consumer)