



Sulfuric Acid & Swimming Pools

Sulfuric acid can be used in swimming pools. Be sure you understand the byproducts being introduced into the water.

What is Sulfuric Acid?

- Mineral based acid which contains sulfur
- Liquid compound that is clear and odorless
- Pool concentrations are generally between 37.5% to 38.5%



The Byproducts of Sulfuric Acid in Pool Water

- Increase of mineral sulfates
- Accelerated increase of total dissolved solids (TDS). High TDS levels lead to decreased sanitizer effectiveness and increased chlorine demand
- Increased levels of sulfates lead to taste and odor issues that are unpleasant and described as "rotten eggs" or a sulfur smell
- Sulfate levels over 300 ppm lead to corrosion of stainless-steel surfaces
- Erosion of cement surfaces and cementitious grout

The EPA considers sulfates a secondary contaminant in drinking water and has set a limit of 250 ppm.

Calcium Sulfate Scale: A Tougher Breed

- Sulfuric acid in high hardness leads to the formation of calcium sulfate scale
- Unlike calcium carbonate scale which forms slowly, calcium sulfate forms rapidly once the water reaches a threshold of the minerals
- Calcium sulfate scale is more difficult to remove from surfaces. Tile cleaners and dilute acid washes are not enough to remove it

Safety Concerns of Sulfuric Acid

- Sulfuric acid is corrosive, any mist or splash of the product can be very harmful to surfaces especially stainless steel and concrete
- Sulfuric acid will cause burns if it splashes on to skin
- Sulfuric acid needs to be stored and handled very carefully

Muriatic Acid Benefits

- Comprised of hydrogen and chlorine only byproduct is a form of chloride
- No accelerated increase of TDS
- Does not lead to scale formation or toxicity
- At full strength of 31.45%, muriatic does fume and the storage area needs to be well-ventilated

HASA Acid15® A Better Alternative

- Low fuming
- Safer storage and handling
- Leaves no harmful byproducts



When Using Sulfuric Acid, Test the Sulfates Level Frequently



Calcium Sulfate Scale is Much More Difficult to Remove



HASA Acid15® Offers a Low Fuming Hydrochloric Acid