



# GEORGIA SPA CO.

An Employee Owned Company

## Hot Tub Start Up & Maintenance Guidelines FreshWater Salt System



Video Orientation  
FreshWater Salt System

**Water Care 101:** Changes to your hot tub's water chemistry are normal and can happen rapidly based on many factors including usage, water temperature, and water level. Regular testing and adjustments are recommended for a fun and safe hot tub ownership experience. The following guide outlines our recommended steps that you should take to maintain your hot tub's water care. *Don't worry, you'll be a pro in no time!*

### Have These Items Ready:

- Five-Way Test Strips (use to test total alkalinity, pH, calcium hardness & chlorine levels)
- Phosphate Test Strips (use to test phosphates)
- Mineral Cartridge (Every 3-4 Months)
- Salt Cartridge (Every 3-4 Months)
- Salt Test Strips (use to test salt levels)
- Spa Salt
- Vanishing Act



**Pro Tip:** Check chemical and salt levels using the appropriate test strip!

**\*\*\*Always activate jets when adding water care products, unless noted otherwise\*\*\***

## FRESH FILL (Start Up)

Follow these steps during initial filling or refilling after draining.

1. Fill hot tub with water (use a **Pre-Filter** during the fill cycle for well water). First, remove filter and filter lid/basket. Add water directly to hot tub through the filter compartment. Fill to above all jets and just below pillows/headrests.
2. After filling, replace filter components and follow the instructions provided in your owner's manual to turn on your hot tub and begin heating.



3. Check and remove phosphates

**Ideal Range:**  
0-300 ppb

**Adjust with:**

**SpaGuard Phosphate Remover**

Use 1/4 oz of Phosphate Remover to bring phosphates down to under 300 ppb. Retest every 24 hours. If above 300 ppb, repeat.

4. If phosphate remover is used, remove and rinse filters thoroughly before proceeding to the next step.

5. Check and balance total alkalinity 80-120 ppm

**SpaGuard Total Alkalinity Increaser**  
**SpaGuard pH Decreaser**

6. Check and balance pH 7.2-7.8 ppm

**SpaGuard pH Increaser or pH Decreaser**

7. Add **FreshWater Spa Salt** based on fresh fill chart on bag (2 1/3 cups of salt per 100 gallons). Add one cup at a time to the filter compartment with jets running. Run jets for 5 minutes to allow the salt to dissolve.

8. Add 1 tsp. of **SpaGuard Chlorinating Concentrate** per 100 gallons to achieve 5 ppm chlorine level.

9. Check calcium hardness 25-75 ppm  
*IF out of range, contact Georgia Spa before adjusting.*

**Vanishing Act Calcium Remover**  
**SpaGuard Calcium Hardness Increaser**  
(not included in start-up kit)

10. Enter output level on topside control panel. An initial output level of 10 is recommend.

11. Install **Silver Ion Cartridge** into filter housing per product instructions.

**\*\*\*Leave cover open for a minimum of 20 minutes for off-gassing to prevent damage to cover and pillows\*\*\***

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**\*\*\*Pro Tip: Maintenance frequency may vary based on usage\*\*\***

### 24-HOUR CHECK:

1. Spa must be between 90 and 104F before retesting.
2. Check to see if the salt level is in the recommended range (1,750-2,200 ppm). If in range, skip this step. Add **FreshWater Spa Salt ONLY** if necessary!
3. Check and balance **pH** (7.2-7.8 ppm) and **total alkalinity** (80-120 ppm).
4. Confirm that the **calcium hardness** levels are in range (25-75 ppm).
5. If chlorine is 0-1 ppm, add **SpaGuard Chlorinating Concentrate**.



### EVERY 7-10 DAYS:

1. Test and balance your **pH** (7.2-7.8 ppm) and **total alkalinity** (80-120 ppm)
2. Confirm your output level. Decrease your output level by 1 every 7-10 days until your system maintains 1-3 ppm of chlorine. If chlorine is 0 ppm, add **SpaGuard Chlorinating Concentrate** and increase output level by 1.

NOTE: Press the Confirm or OK button to clear the 10-day system check reminder. If you don't press the confirm button within 15 days, your FreshWater Salt System will automatically lower the output. After 21 days, the system will start a shutdown procedure.



### EVERY 30 DAYS:

1. Test your salt levels with a manual test strip (1,750-2,200 ppm)

If below 1,750 ppm, adjust your salt level by adding **FreshWater Spa Salt** according to the chart on the back of the bag. Amount of salt needed will vary depending on your salt reading and the number of gallons of your model spa.

PRO TIP: This is also a good time to use the **SpaGuard Chlorinating Concentrate** to boost your water's chlorine level to 5 ppm. Get the appropriate dosage for your size hot tub from the back of the bottle.

2. Test phosphates (< 300 ppb recommended). If above, add **SpaGuard Phosphate Remover** per instructions.
3. Clean filters with **SpaGuard Filter Cleaner**, or for **Tri-X filters**, clean in dishwasher per instructions.

**FREE Water Testing!** Bring us a sample of your hot tub water, and we'll test it and provide a report of steps to take to adjust your spa water. Showrooms open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Sunday 1-5 p.m. **We recommend having your water tested every 30 days.**



### EVERY 3-4 MONTHS:

1. Replace your **FreshWater System Cartridge**.

NOTE: Your system will notify you when you need to replace this cartridge. Typical replacement time is 3-4 months.

2. Replace your **Silver Ion Cartridge**.

PRO TIP: Sign up for our **Home Auto Ship Program** and when your shipment arrives it's the reminder you'll need to change both of these cartridges.

### EVERY 8-12 MONTHS:

1. Drain your hot tub. See owners manual for specific draining instructions.
2. Clean your tub using **303 Multi-Surface Cleaner**. Do NOT spray entire tub. Spray on a cloth rag and spot clean as needed.
3. Refill your tub following the Fresh Fill (Start Up) instructions.



*Let us help you with water care!*

Hot tubs are made for relaxation and enjoyment. With our **EZ Valet Service** we will take care of the details so that you can take care of the enjoyment. Select from a single-visit drain and clean service or choose a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly valet plan.



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