

If you own or operate a pool, especially outdoors, it is important to keep it covered when not in use. Covers offer a variety of benefits that include keeping dirt and debris out, prolonging the life of your filtration system, reducing water evaporation, reducing the quantity of chemicals needed and retaining the heat of the pool while conserving energy. However, they can be awkward, heavy and require the support of multiple people.



If you currently utilize a manual pool cover you may want to consider moving toward an automated pool cover. These covers feature all the benefits of manual covers, while reducing the risk of staff and patron injuries. Automated covers can also be operated by a single employee, allowing the rest of the staff to act as spotters and maintain the safety of patrons and other employees. While they may cost more than a manual pool cover, they are safer for employees to manage and over time, can pay for themselves. If you opt to install an automated cover, we suggest the cover be professionally installed.

It is very important to only have trained staff place covers on the pool. Staff needs to make sure all users (staff, volunteers and patrons) are out of the pool and off the pool deck to ensure the safety of everyone while placing the pool cover.

For members that rent out their pools, we recommend you review your use policy regarding removing and placing pool covers. The policy should state that only staff is allowed to remove and place pool covers.

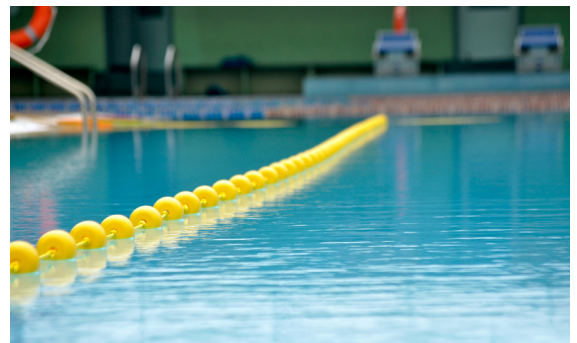
**While using any cover, automated or manual, there are a few things to remember.**

#### DEPLOYING COVERS

- Visually inspect to ensure all persons are out of the pool and have left the pool area
- Unwrap guide wire rope
- Remove lane lines from pool
- Ensure only necessary staff are on the pool deck while covering the pool
- Deploy one cover at a time

#### RETRACTING COVERS

- Ensure only trained staff are on the pool deck when removing the pool cover
- Inspect the cover prior to rolling up
- Retract one cover at a time
- Wrap up guide wire rope and secure



**If you have any questions regarding pool covers, please contact Risk Management at 800-285-5461 or [riskmanagement@sdao.com](mailto:riskmanagement@sdao.com).**