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New system bringing cleaner water to pools in Sun City West

Nov 25th, 2015 · by Philip Haldiman · 0 Comments



There are six pools and seven spas that members can use in Sun City West.

That's a lot of chlorine.

Most people know that chlorine aids in killing bacteria in pools that can be hazardous to humans. Chlorine generally does its intended job, but it can have some side effects, including itchy skin and faded swim wear.

But a new invention being used at a number of Sun City West pools is reducing chlorine-use, and making the water residents swim in cleaner and healthier.

Facilities Maintenance Manager Russ Boston said Aqua Gen, an oxygen water treatment system, has been

being used in Sun City West pools since February.

He said Aqua Gen was first installed at the pool at Beardsley Recreation Center, 12755 Beardsley Road.

Mr. Boston said the system has been installed at other facilities, including the Fred Kuentz Center, 14401 R.H. Johnson Boulevard, which has shown the biggest decrease in chlorine-use.

The pool at Kuentz saw a 75 percent drop in chlorine-usage a month after installation, Mr. Boston said.

"Beardsley pool has seen about a 20 percent reduction, but it has always used less chlorine. Every body of water has its own characteristics based on use, water temperature, air temperature, indoor or outdoor," he said. "Using less chlorine is better all around. We're excited to see usage next year."

Michael Geyer, president of Exceptional Water Systems, said the Aqua Gen system increases the dissolved oxygen in pools by injecting higher oxygen levels into the water, which provides enhanced disinfecting and oxidizing capabilities.

Mr. Geyer said the need for chlorine drops dramatically, and results in cleaner, oxygenated water to the level that medical centers and hospitals use for burn patients.

He said five pools use the system in Sun City West and eventually all Recreation Centers pools will be installed with Aqua Gen.

"This is good for people that have sensitive skin or for those who can't be in a chlorinated environment for an extended amount of time. With this, you don't have these issues," Mr. Geyer said. "It's like being in salt water, but better. Health-wise, it is similar to being in a hyperbaric chamber."

Earlier this year, Aqua Gen was approved by the National Sanitation Foundation, an independent, accredited organization that tests, audits and certifies water products.

Mr. Geyer said Sun City West is one of the first to use the system for pools, however it has also been used in the agriculture and the fish industries to produce cleaner water.

"From an agricultural standpoint, oxygenated water is good for plants, and can help them grow three to four times faster," Mr. Geyer said. "But there could be numerous possibilities."

Properties Committee Member Rosemary Dougherty said the benefits to the new water improvement system are both practical and financially beneficial.

"It makes the water better and you don't have to buy as many bathing suits," she said.

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