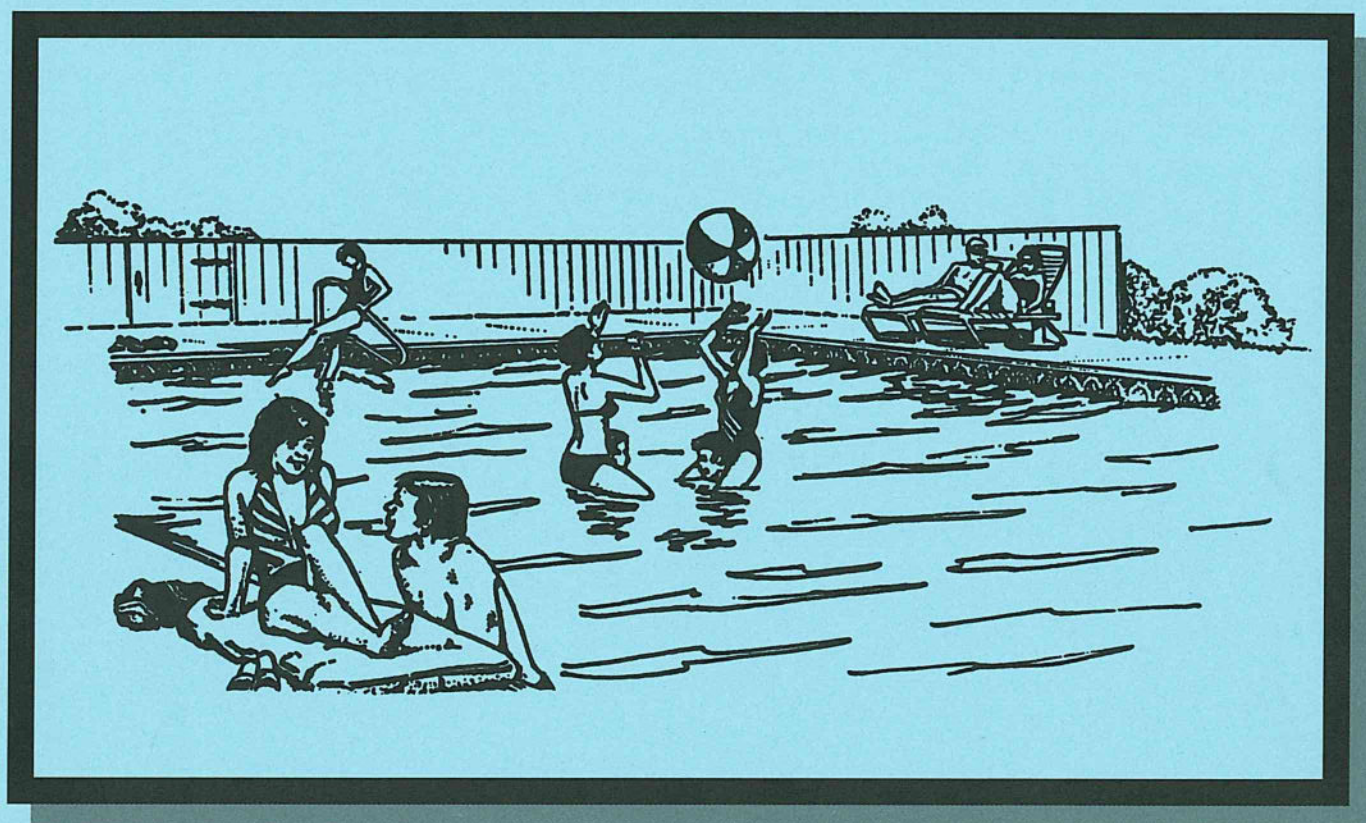
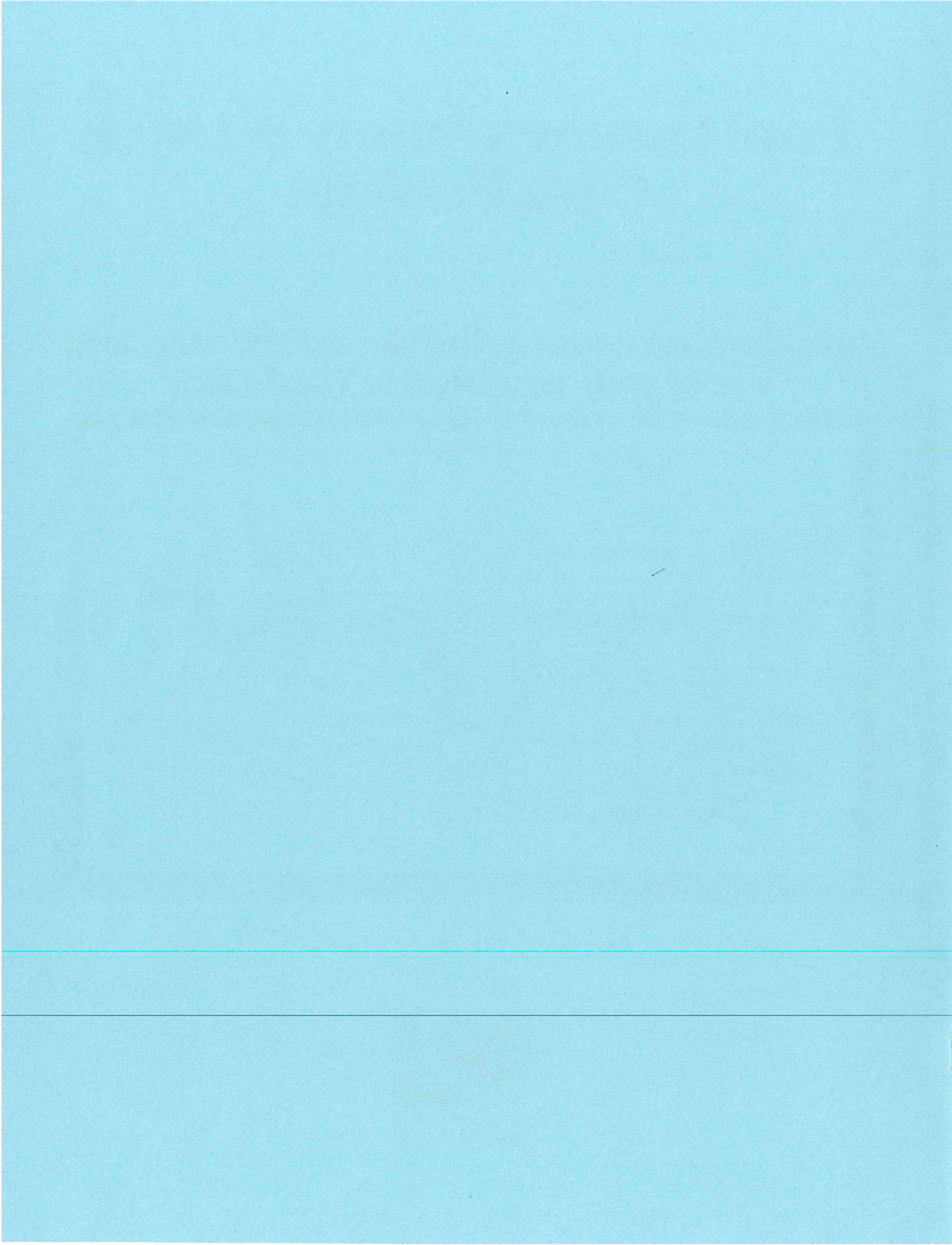


# **Pool Owner's Safety & Liner Care Booklet**

**Information concerning the safety, care, and  
use of your new Merlin Vinyl Liner**









A letter from our president

Dear Valued Customer,

Thank you for purchasing a Merlin Vinyl Liner. Swimming pools are fantastic forms of recreation. They give you access to a terrific form of physical activity while also bringing you and your family together for years of constant enjoyment. Please use your swimming pool with the utmost care. The unique nature of pools requires an extra level of respect for the dangers they can present.

The most immediate danger is of drowning. Children must always swim under the surveillance of an adult. Even an accomplished adult swimmer can get into a situation that he or she cannot handle alone. Make sure no one ever swims alone in your pool.

Another serious danger involves diving. Diving is very dangerous and hazardous if not done properly and in the proper diving area. You or someone you love could seriously injure themselves for life. Please make sure whenever someone uses the pool that they know how to dive properly and where the diving area is located.

Other dangers, such as slipping and falling on wet decks, exist around your pool. When using your pool, tolerate no horseplay or rowdy behavior in or around the pool area.

These and other dangers and how to avoid them are discussed in the pamphlets and booklets included with your vinyl liner. Please read, understand, and implement all of the information contained in your pool owner packet. Following these procedures will help you and your family to safely enjoy your pool for years and years.

Enclosed in your pool owner's packet is the NSPI pamphlet, Layers of Protection. I urge you to review the suggested safety options and implement at least one option to your pool. Merlin Industries manufactures safety covers in both mesh and solid material that prevent entry into the pool, as well as safety fencing, which can be used when children are present. The combination of the safety cover and fencing would provide you with 2 layers of protection for peace of mind. Brochures on these Merlin products are included in your pool owner's packet.

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Thank you again and Happy Swimming !!!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Maggion", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Andrew Maggion  
President





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# POOL OWNER'S SAFETY PACKET

All vinyl liners include a Pool Owner's Safety Packet. The packet includes important safety information that should be reviewed before anyone enters your pool. The following information is included in the packet:

1. POOL OWNER SAFETY AND LINER CARE BOOKLET
  - contains important information about pool safety and vinyl liner maintenance (this Booklet)
2. THE SENSIBLE WAY TO ENJOY YOUR POOL
  - safety publication from the National Spa and Pool Institute (NSPI)
3. GREG LOUGANIS ON DIVING
  - safe diving from the NSPI
4. CHILDREN AREN'T WATERPROOF
  - safety tips for children from the NSPI
5. POOL AND SPA EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN
  - what to do in an emergency from the NSPI
6. WARRANTY AND REGISTRATION CARD

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**Make sure all of these items were in your pool owner's packet.  
If any were missing, please contact Merlin  
Industries and we will send you your missing copies.**

## **ATTENTION POOL OWNER'S!!**

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY AND LINER INFORMATION ENCLOSED**

Common sense and the practice of following a few safety rules can prevent injuries and damage to your pool from occurring. All swimming pools should be used with extreme caution. Any improper activity in and around a swimming pool can result in serious injury or death. It is important that you, your family, and your friends read, understand, and follow the rules and guidelines in this booklet and the accompanying NSPI booklets and pamphlets – BEFORE USING YOUR POOL.

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO INSURE THAT THE PROCEDURES, INFORMATION, AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS BOOKLET AND YOUR POOL**

### **NATIONAL SPA AND POOL INSTITUTE (NSPI) STANDARD FOR RESIDENTIAL POOLS**

NSPI'S "Standard for Residential Swimming Pools" (1-1-89) allows for diving equipment to be installed on pools that are constructed in accordance with certain minimum dimensions. If diving equipment is currently installed or will be installed on your pool, it is essential that the diving equipment and installation conform to the NSPI standard. Have your pool dealer confirm the classification of your pool as Diving or a Non-Diving pool. If your pool is classified as a Diving pool have your dealer confirm that your diving equipment is the correct type and properly located. Your pool dealer should provide you with this information. If not, you should obtain a copy of the "Standard for Residential Swimming Pools" (1-1-89) by writing to:

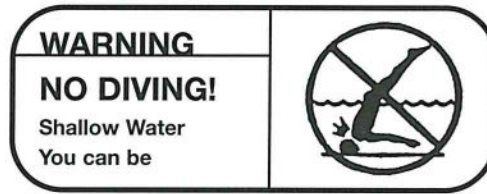
National Spa & Pool Institute  
211 Eisenhower Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22314

### **The Pool Owner's Responsibility – You Are Responsible To:**

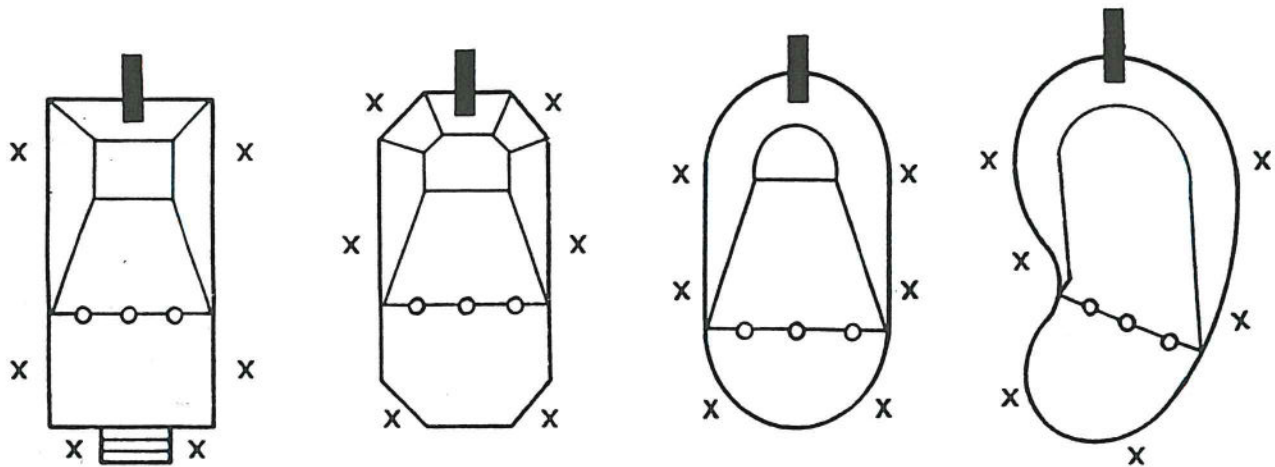
1. Review all information contained in the Pool Owner's Safety Packet and this booklet with your family and your guests before they use the pool.
2. Warn everyone using the pool of diving precautions.
3. Familiarize all pool users – especially first time guests – with your pool's depth and dimensions before they enter the pool.
4. Enforce every safety rule contained in NSPI publications enclosed in the Pool Owner's Safety Packet.
5. Maintain the pool with safe and clear water.
6. Keep rope, ladder(s), handrail(s), and float line in place at all times.
7. Instruct pool users to use the handrail in a pool equipped with walk-in stairs.



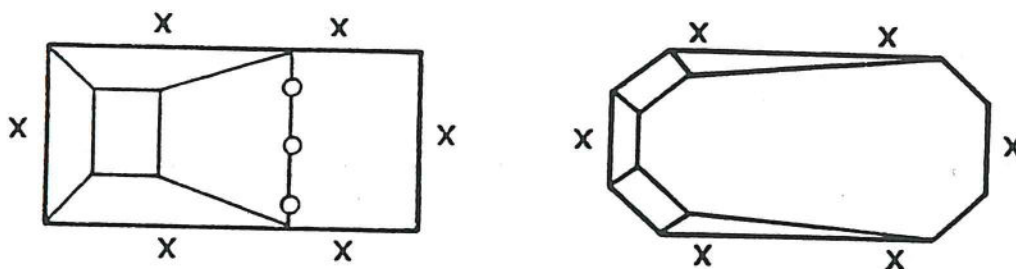
## **“Warning – No Diving” Labels**



A Dealer/Installer Safety Packet containing six (6) “Warning-No Diving” labels, instructions on the proper application of the labels and proper pool liner installation procedures were provided with your pool liner to be used by your independent dealer/installer. It is the responsibility of your independent dealer/installer to affix all “Warning – No Diving” labels on the pool liner, between the water level and the top of the pool wall, in designated areas as follows:



### **Typical DIVING Pools\***



### **SYMBOLS:**

—○—○—○—	=	Rope & Float Line
X	=	Approximate position on the liner for affixing “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels
■	=	Designated Diving Area

\* Similar shape pools can be DIVING or NON DIVING Pools. Refer to NSPI’S “Standard for Residential Swimming Pools” (1-1-89). For pool shapes not illustrated, “WARNING-NO DIVING” labels should be placed in corresponding locations in the deep and shallow ends of the pool.



## **Do you have “Warning - No Diving” labels attached to your vinyl liner?**

If the “WARNING – NO DIVING” labels are not affixed to the pool liner by your dealer / installer, you must take the following action before anyone uses the pool:

1. Immediately contact your dealer/installer to affix the necessary “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels.
2. If you are unsuccessful in getting your dealer/installer to affix the “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels, you may obtain the labels by writing to:

Merlin Industries, Inc.  
2904 East State Street Ext.  
Hamilton, NJ 08619  
Attn: Customer Service Department

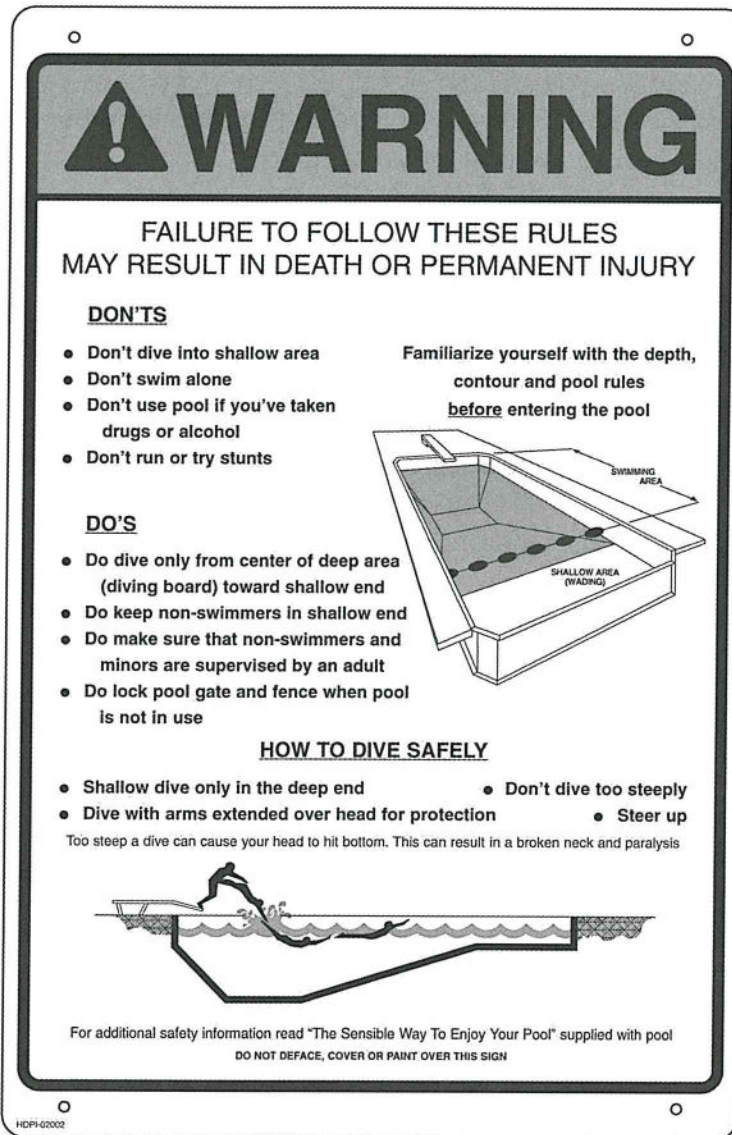
3. You can affix the “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels by following the instructions below.
4. You may also obtain additional “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels by writing to the above address.

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR “WARNING - NO DIVING” LABELS**

The simple application instructions for “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels are set forth below:

1. The “WARNING - NO DIVING” labels have a decal type adhesive so the labels can be affixed to the vinyl liner when the pool is nearly full of water.
2. Make sure the liner surface is clean and dry.
3. Remove the protective paper from the back of the label. Then place the label on the vinyl liner between water level and the top of the pool wall at the designated areas shown on the typical Diving and Non-Diving pools on the preceding page.
4. Smooth the label slowly and carefully from the top down very lightly to remove air and wrinkles.

## POOL USER SAFETY SIGN



A POOL USER SAFETY SIGN was also packed with your liner. This POOL USER SAFETY SIGN must be permanently mounted in the immediate pool area. (i.e. on gate, post, fence or wall) so that it is conspicuously seen by all people entering and using the pool area. Be certain that all family members and especially guests review this information before using the pool. Additional signs can be obtained at a nominal fee by writing to MERLIN INDUSTRIES' Customer Service Department at the address on the previous page.



## **Pool Safety**

Use this checklist every day before using your pool.

### **Pool and Pool Area Maintenance Checklist**

1. Maintain proper water level.
2. Clean, clear water (check daily).
3. Liner is clean above and below the water line.
4. All accessories in proper condition – nothing broken or loose.
5. Clear deck area.
6. No glass or sharp objects.
7. No unapproved appliances (including telephone).
8. First Aid Kit, safety hook, and other life saving equipment are readily available.
9. All grates in place on suction fittings.
10. Safety line in place.
11. Safety signs and decals in good order.
12. Emergency list of phone numbers nearby.
13. Gates and self-locking devices in good working condition.
14. Chemicals properly stored.



# **Attention!!**



## **Do Not Mix Drugs and/or Alcohol with Pool**

Drinking alcoholic beverages and/or using drugs impair a person's judgement; and may instill a false sense of bravado in many people. As a result, a person under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol may attempt things around a pool that they would not do otherwise. Examples of such activity might be having a diving contest, showing off, or engaging in dangerous horseplay.

Diving after drinking alcoholic beverages and/or using drugs can result in severe and life threatening injuries. An intoxicated or impaired diver rarely hurts anyone but himself; and one accident is all it takes to have an injury that can last a lifetime.

**You and your family are responsible for the safety of you and your guests.**

Drinking alcoholic beverages and/or using drugs must be forbidden in connection with any pool related activities. Anyone who has been drinking alcoholic beverages and/or using drugs should be prohibited from using the pool. Refer to page 9 in the NSPI booklet, "The Sensible Way To Enjoy Your Pool" for further information.



# **Safety and Your Children**

## **Children and Emergencies**

Children should never be left unattended in the pool area. Children and non-swimmers should always be supervised by a responsible adult. NSPI'S "Children Aren't Waterproof" pamphlet informs you of safety precautions one should follow when children are in and around the pool area. NSPI'S "Pool and Spa Emergency Procedures For Infants and Children" pamphlet provides guidelines dealing with emergencies relating to infants and children.

## **Children Aren't Waterproof**

1. Never leave children alone in or near the pool, not even for a second.
2. Young children should never be considered water-safe despite their swimming skills, previous instruction or experience.
3. The pool area's access should be limited by locked doors or gates whenever swimming or soaking can't be supervised.
4. All children using the pool should be taught good pool safety habits: no running, no pushing, no jumping on others, no "dunking", and no diving or jumping in shallow water.
5. Do not depend solely on plastic inner tubes, inflatable arm bands, or other toys to prevent accidents.
6. Keep toys, particularly tricycles or any wheeled toy, away from the pool or spa. A child playing with a wheeled toy could accidentally fall into the water.
7. Do not allow anyone, regardless of age to swim without a "spotter" nearby. Examples of safe behavior are important for young children.
8. During social gatherings, make sure someone has the major responsibility of watching the children and swimmers at all times.
9. Don't allow playful screaming for help (false alarms) which might mask a real emergency.
10. Teach your children the quickest and most effective way to exit the pool.
11. Do not allow children to swim after eating a heavy meal.
12. Do not allow anyone to swim during thunder or any other type of storm.
13. Do not allow glass in the pool or area.
14. Do not allow the use of drugs or alcohol by anyone using the pool or in the pool area.

# Liner Care Information

## Important Care Information For Your Vinyl Pool Liner

1. Test your pool water for pH, alkalinity and chlorine levels daily or as recommended by the builder.
2. Always maintain proper pH (7.2 – 7.6) and proper total alkalinity (100 – 150 ppm). Improper pH can cause deterioration, staining, wrinkles, and scalding.
3. Maintain the proper chlorine level recommended by your pool dealer.
4. Have your pool water professionally analyzed at least twice a season.
5. Read all instructions carefully before using any chemicals.
6. Dilute and completely dissolve all chemicals in a pail of water before adding to pool water, unless instructed otherwise by your pool dealer. Remember to always add chemicals to water, not water to chemicals. Do not use your hands to stir the pail.
7. Do not put chlorine tablets or sticks into the skimmer. Do not use a floating chlorinator. The use of these methods may cause bleaching of the pool liner.
8. Never hand broadcast any dry chemicals (especially chlorine) directly into the pool. Bleaching and other problems may occur where undissolved chlorine compound comes in contact with the vinyl liner.
9. Never use an abrasive cleanser or pad on the pool liner to remove “bath tub ring.” Only use cleaners specifically designed for vinyl liners.
10. Do not allow sharp objects in or around the pool. Sharp objects may puncture the pool liner.
11. Use caution when brushing the pool. The edges of some brushes can damage pool liners, especially in the corners and step area.
12. Vacuum the pool with a vacuum head specifically designed for vinyl pool liner surface.
13. Always consult your pool dealer before draining your pool.
14. Algae growth may cause a slippery condition. Call your pool professional immediately if an algae condition develops.
15. Consult your pool dealer regarding winterizing and spring start up procedures. Improper winterizing can cause damage and staining of your liner.
16. Pools should not be winterized or operated for an extended period of time with chlorine levels in excess of 10ppm. Such conditions may cause bleaching damage to the liner.
17. **Removal of the “Warning – No Diving” labels may damage liner and will void liner warranty.**



## **IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING, STORING AND APPLYING CHEMICALS**

1. Store all chemical in a clean, dry ventilated area.
2. Keep all chemical containers separate. Never stack containers together or next to each other.
3. Keep all lids and caps tightly shut.
4. Keep all chemicals out of the reach of children.
5. Read labels thoroughly and follow the directions precisely.
6. Never Mix Chemicals Together. Certain substances may react violently when mixed.
7. Never add water to chemicals...always add chemicals to water, making certain the volume of water is far greater than the amount of chemicals.
8. Never throw chlorine tablets directly into the pool. The tablets will bleach the liner color and oxidize the material in the area they contact. Always use a dispenser or a feeder when adding any type of chlorine. Make certain you read and follow the label directions.
9. Always add chemicals on a gradual "add and test basis", adjusting to the correct test kit reading slowly. Adding chemicals quickly may cause an opposite effect.

