Sand Media Filter Installation Manual
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Rain Bird Corporation
QUICK START INSTRUCTIONS
Sand Media Filter Installation and Start-up Overview

Concise, general directions for the experienced installer complete with detail references for the less experienced.

1. Place filters in desired arrangement; two legs face front, one towards rear. Tanks should be on centers of tank diameter +4". Install outlet manifold. Ref. Page 3
2. Install backwash valves, actuator faces front. Ref. Page 4
3. Install inlet manifold. Ref. Page 4
4. Wash gravel then install gravel and media to levels indicated on tanks. Ref. Page 4
5. Install the water stack assembly on the inlet manifold. Ref. Page 6
6. Poly tube discharge manifold to low pressure port on 3-way valve on water stack. Ref. Page 6
7. Install solenoid valves on automatic valve actuator. # "1" port to valve (arrow on bottom of solenoid valve should point toward backwash valve). Ref. Page 6. Semi-automatic systems refer to diagram on Page 21, then proceed to step 11 below.
8. Poly tube solenoid valve # "2" ports to water stack, poly tube remaining ports to drain. Ref. Page 6
9. Install the backwash discharge manifold and backwash-throttling valve. These are installer supplied items. Ref. Page 3
10. Install Control Box Stand and mount controller. Ref. Page 7
12. Gradually introduce water to the system and purge air from the system. Ref. Page 7
13. Adjust the backwash-throttling valve to about 25% open. Ref. Page 8
14. Manually backwash the system, open backwash throttle valve until a slight amount of media is identified in the backwash stream. Adjust the valve slightly closed until only trace amounts of media are detectable. Ref. Page 8
15. Set the delay time on the controller by timing the time it takes a valve to go from the backwash position back to the filter position. Set the delay time to the next time setting shorter than the valve travel time. Ref. Page 10
16. Set the backwash frequency by monitoring the time it takes the system to build a pressure differential 8 PSI greater than the clean system pressure differential. Set the periodic flush time to this time or the next shorter time. The "time" function should be the primary backwash control function. Ref. Page 10
17. Set the backwash duration after the initial clean up. Set the duration for the time it takes clear water to discharge from the backwash line. This should be a minimum of 90 seconds. Ref. Page 10

System set up is now complete. Refer to the following complete manual for more detailed instructions and troubleshooting guide.

SERVICE NOTE: PRESSURE IS REQUIRED TO BE RELEASED FROM THE FILTER BEFORE PERFORMING ANY SERVICE OR MAINTENANCE OPERATION ON THE FILTER. WORKING ON A PRESSURIZED VESSEL CAN CAUSE INJURY AND SHOULD NEVER BE ATTEMPTED FOR ANY REASON. SERVICE FEE BASED SERVICE BY RAIN BIRD AUTHORIZED SERVICE PROVIDERS IS AVAILABLE IN MOST AREAS.
GENERAL INFORMATION

1. ON-SITE HANDLING

A filter tank should only be lifted from under the tank or by strapping around the legs where they join the tank, and lifting vertically.

NEVER LIFT A FILTER TANK BY THE VALVE!

2. PROVISIONS FOR BACKWASH WATER DISCHARGE

Although the amount of water required to backwash the filter bed is small compared to the amount of water filtered, it is discharged at a high rate for a short period of time. Provisions should be made to drain away, store or otherwise dispose of the dirty backwash water. The backwash line should not be connected to a pressure line and should be discharged to atmosphere. When returning backwash water to a reservoir, the discharge point should be as far away as possible from the pump intake. The backwash water flow should discharge to atmosphere above the water, not underwater! This will allow for proper backwash flow adjustment.

3. FILTER COUPLINGS

Grooved type couplings are supplied as standard on all piping supplied with the filters. These couplings mechanically lock the filters together, while allowing some line flexibility.

The backwash discharge ports have grooved type couplings with slip PVC adapters to facilitate PVC backwash manifold installation. The backwash discharge line should be the same size pipe as the PVC adapter supplied on the unit. If the backwash discharge line is excessively long or runs on a downhill slope, a vacuum breaker should be installed on the backwash line after the backwash flow restrictor valve.

NOTE: The backwash manifold and backwash flow control valve should be supplied by the installer or dealer. (See Fig. A)

FIGURE A. BACKWASH MANIFOLD AND FLOW CONTROL VALVE
1. **INSTALLATION**

1.1 Position the tanks on a concrete pad with two legs facing front, one towards the rear. Position tanks on centers of tank diameter +4". Once the filter tanks have been placed and aligned, the outlet manifold should now be connected. Locate the corresponding grooved coupling that matches the outlet spud size and remove the gasket. Lubricate the coupling gasket with soapy water and slide the gasket onto the outlet connection on the filters. Lift the outlet manifold into position so that the tank and manifold connections are touching. Using floor jack or blocks will help to hold the manifold in place. Slide the gasket down until it is in the center of the two grooves. Install the grooved coupling and bolts and tighten enough to keep the manifold in place. Using the above procedure, install the remaining couplings and re-tighten all of the bolts on the lower manifold.

1.2 Install the backwash valve on each tank using corresponding grooved coupling. Remove the gasket from the coupling, apply soapy water and slide gasket onto the tank inlet connection. Locate backwash valve on top connection and slide the gasket into the middle of the 2 grooves. Install the grooved coupling and bolts and tighten partially. The automatic actuator or manual operator should face the front of the filter.

1.3 Install the upper inlet manifold to the backwash valves, using the corresponding grooved coupling. Using the soapy water, slide the gaskets onto the inlet manifold spuds and connect manifold to the backwash valves with the grooved couplings. Tighten the couplings partially, then check alignment of manifolds and valves and re-tighten the bolts on all couplings.

1.4 Connect the incoming water supply to the top inlet manifold.

1.5 Connect the bottom outlet manifold to the field side of the irrigation system.

1.6 Install PVC grooved adapters to the backwash ports on the backwash valves using the corresponding size grooved coupling. Complete the assembly of the backwash manifold (installer/dealer provided). A backwash restrictor valve must be installed within 5 feet of the last backwash valve for proper system operation.

**NOTE:** The flush restrictor valve is essential for the correct operation of a sand media filter. Any gate, globe or butterfly valve is satisfactory if, after adjustment, the valve stem can be locked in place to protect against accidental or inadvertent adjustment.
2. **MEDIA INSTALLATION FOR RAIN BIRD SAND MEDIA FILTERS**

2.1 The Rain Bird Sand Media Filters require the use of a gravel pack for optimum performance.

2.2 The amount of 1/2" to 3/4" crushed rock and filtration media required to properly fill each filter can be found in Table A, on page 6. Crushed rock must be thoroughly washed to remove dirt and other foreign material that could plug the filter underdrain. The crushed rock must cover the wedge wire underdrain by 2 to 3 inches.

### TABLE A. MEDIA FILL LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Filter Model</th>
<th>1/2&quot; to 3/4&quot; Rock</th>
<th>Media</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A (INCHES)</td>
<td>Va (CUB FT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF48</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All dimensions and volumes are approximate.

2.3 Remove the access cover and pour in the recommended gravel pack and media. The gravel pack goes in first with the filtration media loading in on top of the gravel pack. Prior to filling with media, inspect inside of the filters for any foreign material. Filters should be filled with media to approximately the level given in chart above. Do not allow any of the packaging material to get mixed in with the media.
2.4 Clean the access cover and replace. Tighten bolts alternately at 180° locations. See the diagram on the cover. Bolts should not be tightened over 25 foot pounds as over tightening will cut the gasket material. DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN BOLTS.

3. INSTALLATION OF BACKWASH CONTROLS FOR RAIN BIRD SAND MEDIA FILTERS

On filter systems that are supplied with automatic backwash controls, the procedure listed below should be followed to assure correct installation of the automatic backwash controls. Similar instructions should be followed for systems provided with semi-automatic controls with exceptions noted below.

3.1 The water-stack is shipped pre-assembled. An assembly diagram for future reference can be found on Page 12. The water stack is connected to the inlet manifold (upper) screwing the 1/2" male ball valve into the 1/2" port on the inlet manifold. On systems operating at pressures above 100 PSI, refer to the assembly drawing on Page 13 for a description of the high-pressure water stack assembly.

3.2 On the discharge manifold (lower), install the 1/2" x 1/4" galvanized bushing, and 1/4" poly elbow into the 1/2" port in the outlet manifold.

3.3 Connect the poly tubing to the poly connector on the outlet manifold. Connect the other end of the poly tubing to the poly tee (#5A) on the 1/4" three-way valve (#8) on the water-stack assembly. The high-pressure port of the differential pressure switch is factory assembled.

3.4 Install the solenoid valves to the valve actuators. The solenoid port marked 1 is connected to the 1/4" port on the valve actuator with a 1/4" close nipple. Depending on the number of backwash valves, install either a 1/4" poly elbow or a 1/4" poly tee to the solenoid port marked 2. Refer to the diagram on Page 12. The flow arrow on the bottom of the base of the solenoid valve should point toward the valve actuator. Semi-automatic systems utilize 3-way ball valves in lieu of solenoid valves. Refer to the diagram on Page 21.

3.5 Connect the poly tubing to the poly tee on the water-stack (#5) and connect the other end to the poly fitting installed to the solenoid port marked 2 on filter #1 in Step 3.4 above. Filter #2 should be connected in the same manner.

In the case of larger filter systems (three filters or more), it will be necessary to use either poly elbows or poly tees to connect the poly tubing from one solenoid valve to the next.

3.6 Install poly elbows on the remaining solenoid ports (drain ports) and connect a length of poly tubing long enough to be inserted inside of a leg of tank. During the course of normal filter operation, a small amount of water will drain from this tubing to the ground.

3.7 Mount the controller to controller stand that is provided. Refer to the separate manual provided with the automatic backwash controller for wiring and operational instruction.
4. SYSTEM START-UP

**NOTE:** First time start-up should be done with caution. All air must be purged out of all lines and filters prior to start-up. Valves and pumps must be opened slowly to prevent damage to filters and the irrigation system due to entrapped air.

4.1 Start the system in the manual mode with the controller in the OFF position, with the backwash restriction valve in the 1/4 open position. Introduce water into filter system, filling lines and tanks slowly. The 1/2" ball valve on the water stack should be in the open position.

4.2 When approximately 10 PSI pressure is reached, turn the manual override knob on the solenoid on tank #1 to the ON position for 1 to 2 minutes to purge entrapped air from the system. Turn tank #1 OFF and repeat this process on tanks #2, 3, 4, etc.

4.3 When 50% of the system operating pressure is reached, repeat the flush cycle manually to purge any remaining air.

4.4 When 100% of system pressure is reached or after 15 minutes of operation, repeat the flush cycle allowing 3 minutes flush per tank.

4.5 With all of the solenoid manual override knobs in the OFF position, turn the flush controller on. Set the flush time to 90 seconds and the delay time to 30 seconds. Push the manual start button and the system should go through a flush cycle.

4.6 Set the Pressure Differential (P.D.) switch pointer/contact at 8 PSI over the clean filter pressure differential. (Example: Clean filter pressure differential of 5 PSI + 8 PSI = 13 PSI switch setting).

**NOTE:** On high-pressure systems (those operating at 100 PSI or more), it will be necessary to adjust the pressure regulator that is supplied on the high-pressure water stack assembly to permit the backwash valves to open. As soon as the system operating pressure has been reached loosen the lock nut on the regulator handle and turn the adjustment handle counter clockwise. This will reduce the pressure on the backwash valve actuator. Then, put one valve into backwash using the manual override on the solenoid valve. Slowly turn the adjustment handle on the regulator clockwise, which increases the pressure on the backwash valve. Slowly continue increasing the pressure until the backwash valve opens smoothly and completely. Excessive pressure on the valve actuator could result in the backwash valve opening too fast creating water hammer and possible valve damage. Insufficient pressure will not allow the valve to open fully. Tighten the locking nut once the pressure regulator is set properly.

4.7 The automatic filter controller should be set so that the frequency of filter backwashing corresponds with the build up of pressure drop to the established dirty filter pressure differential set point. Establishing the time frequency of flush may require several days of monitoring to determine the proper setting. (Example: If it takes 6 hours of operation to reach the dirty filter pressure switch setting of 13 PSI, the backwash frequency setting on the controller should be set at 6 hours).
4.8 The backwash restrictor valve adjustment - The most critical factor to proper sand filter operation!

4.8.a. Open the backwash restrictor control valve approximately 25%.

4.8.b. Be sure that all air is purged from each tank by partially opening and closing each tank flush valve.

4.8.c. Before proceeding with backwash adjustments, the pump must be run long enough to fill the entire irrigation system at the designed pressure and flow.

4.8.d. Manually initiate a backwash on one tank by turning the manual override screw to the “ON” position. With semi-auto systems turn the 3-way ball valve on backwash valve to introduce water into the valve actuator.

4.8.e. By the use of hand sampling, use of a clear jar or a screen-sampling device, monitor the contents of the backwash discharge water.

4.8.f. Gradually open the backwash restrictor valve until a small amount of media from the backwash water appears in the discharge flow.

4.8.g. When media begins to show up in the backwash water, close the backwash flow control valve until the water is essentially clear of media. A small trace of media is acceptable since it is desirable that the lighter granules (fines) in the bed be allowed to wash out. After completing the above adjustments, all tanks should be backwashed extensively (3 to 5 minutes each) to remove contaminants and fine material usually found in newly installed media.
RECOMMENDED BACKWASH FLOW RATES BY TYPE OF MEDIA

The following table shows the approximate backwash flow rates that are required to provide for proper filter backwash. All factors are per single tank. Actual backwash flow should be determined as described in Section 5. Use of a flow meter for setting of backwash restrictor valve is not recommended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media Type</th>
<th>Mean Eff. Media Size</th>
<th>Uniformity Coefficient</th>
<th>Approximate Backwash Flow Rate (GPM) By Filter Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S-47 #20 Silica</td>
<td>.47 mm</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>25 50 80 110 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G-78 #11 Granite</td>
<td>.78 mm</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td>25 50 80 110 200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During backwash, the tanks not being backwashed supply clean water for backwashing, and also supply the filtered water for the field. If the volume of your source water is not adequate for both the backwash requirement and to supply filtered water to the field, you can increase the backwash flow by installing a valve in the filtered water output line and closing off or partially restricting the flow through this line during backwash. If this method is used, the flow must be restricted exactly the same amount each flush or variable backwash performance will occur.

5. THE BACKWASH FUNCTION

Backwashing the filters is the process by which clean water flows upward through the underdrain, lifting and expanding the media bed allowing it to release the collected contaminant. The contaminant is then carried away with the backwash water. Excessive backwash flow rates will expand the media to the point that the media itself is expelled out of the tank. Insufficient backwash flow will not expand the media enough to purge all the entrapped contaminant. This
could result in a residual pressure loss through the bed, even after backwash. To achieve maximum filter performance, the backwash flow must be properly adjusted.

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

1. If at a later time, you make any significant changes in pressure or flow, the above adjustments should be re-checked.
2. Backwashing at 8 PSI above clean filter pressure differential is recommended.
3. The minimum stated system operating pressure is 20 PSI. When operating at pressures lower than 40 PSI, pay especially close attention to the backwash function to ensure adequate cleaning. An effective backwash requires that back-pressure be maintained on the system during backwash. A pressure maintenance valve may be required. Backwashing should be more frequent on low-pressure (<40PSI) applications, with an allowable increase in pressure differential, over clean, of 5 PSI.

The backwashing function of the sand media filtration system is the most important aspect of the filter system operation. Without proper backwashing, the entrapped dirt is not expelled from the system. Filters should be flushed when the pressure loss increases by 8 PSI over the clean filter pressure loss. Each filter should be flushed for a minimum of 90 seconds per tank. If backwash water is not visually clear after 90 seconds time, extend the flush duration. Filters should be flushed for a minimum of 90 seconds each, at least once every 24 hours even if an 8 PSI pressure drop is not attained. The dwell setting is properly set when there is a slight overlap of two filters flushing. Measure the time required for a valve to return to the filter position from the backwash position. Set the dwell setting to the next shortest setting. The quality of product water produced by your sand media filters is directly affected by the quality and frequency of the backwashing operation. In filters utilizing the wedgewire underdrain some contamination build up may occur where heavy silt loading is present. Under these circumstances a periodic longer backwash cycle or mechanical agitation of the sand bed may be required.
FIGURE E –
Hydraulic Actuator and Water Stack for the Automatic Valve
Standard Pressure Systems 100 psi and lower
FIGURE F –
Hydraulic Actuator and Water Stack for the Automatic Valve
High Pressure Systems above 100 psi
WINTERIZATION

Winterization of the Rain Bird Sand Media Assembly

(1) After the last irrigation cycle of the season run a back-flush cycle two (2) times.
(2) Drain the system completely (ensure all ¼” and 3/8” poly lines are completely drained). Use compressed air to remove remaining water from poly lines and components. Once it has been verified that all remaining water has been removed, reconnect lines.
(3) Loosen the fasteners on the 3- Way Solenoid Hydraulic Actuator flanges to allow water to exit the valve. Remove (via quick connect fitting) ¼” poly tubes from solenoids and blow remaining water out of the solenoid (replace poly tubes when complete). Use compressed air to ensure any remaining water is removed.

**NOTE:** Any remaining water that can freeze in a contained area will cause damage. Complete removal of water is critical to avoid damage.
MEDIA FILTER PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The following is a simple schedule for start-up and operational preventative maintenance. The format is a simple one that can be adapted to all forms of filtration and even to other agricultural equipment. The chart should be located in an accessible, but protected, location on the filter pad. The responsible individual should be instructed to date and sign the respective block after each task is performed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Seasonal start up</th>
<th>Seasonal shut down</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Bi-Monthly</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>Quarterly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winterization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check media depth</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean water pickup assembly filter</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect all poly line connections.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect elec. con. &amp; control box seals.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubricate backwash valve.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect inner valve components (seals, diaphram &amp; shaft.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check coupling gaskets for leaks.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check system pressure diff.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjust backwash flow rate.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check flowmeter to assure proper flow rate</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor duration of flush cycle.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate seasonal water quality fluctuations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service down stream strainer</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine shock treatment.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TROUBLESHOOTING MEDIA FILTERS

PROBLEM: POOR FILTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probable Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Excessive flow through the filters, causing coning of media and/or forcing contaminants through the filter to outlet.</td>
<td>1. Reduce the flow rate or add filter unit(s). See manufacturer or recommended flow range.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Air in filter(s) causing disruption (coning) of the media bed.</td>
<td>2. Install auto or manual air bleed device.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Incorrect media in the filtration system.</td>
<td>3. Replace with proper media. See manufacturer for recommended media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Insufficient depth of media, which allows contaminants to pass through system.</td>
<td>5. Add media to achieve proper depth. (Typically 13-14 inches).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Excessively high pressure differential forcing contaminants through the filters.</td>
<td>4. See section below.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROBLEM: CONSISTENTLY HIGH PRESSURE DIFFERENTIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probable Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Filter sealed over with contaminants restricting backwash flow.</td>
<td>1. Open tanks and skim away any excess or caked contaminants from the media Sand beds surface. Return tanks to normal service. Backwash each filter tank until backwash flow runs clean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Insufficient backwash flow rate.</td>
<td>2. Readjust the backwash restrictor valve and/or partially close the field valve to create system backpressure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Filter media level low causing inadequate backwash.</td>
<td>3. Addition of media to correct level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROBLEM: MEDIA SAND APPEARS DOWNSTREAM

Probable Cause

1. Incorrect filter media sand i.e. too fine).
2. Broken or damaged underdrain.

Solution

1. Replace with the proper media sand. See manufacturers recommendations.
2. Repair or replace.

PROBLEM: BACKWASH VALVE(S) LEAK

Probable Cause

1. Obstruction in valve seat.
2. Polyurethane sealing disk is worn or damaged.
3. Diaphragm damaged (leaking from port of diaphragm chamber at rear of valve).
4. Pinched or worn O-Ring.

Solution

1. Remove obstruction.
2. Replace valve seal.
3. Replace diaphragm.
4. Replace O-Ring and/or lubricate shaft.

PROBLEM: WATER HAMMER

Probable Cause

1. Air in tanks.
2. Long backwash line causing vacuum induced slamming of valves.

Solution

1. Bleed off trapped air. See start-up instructions. Also check for leaks in the pump suction line. An air bleed at the filter inlet may also help.
2. Install a vacuum breaker on the backwash line.
**PROBLEM: INCREASING FREQUENCY OF BACKWASH CYCLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probable Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Backwash flow or duration is not adequate to flush filter tanks of all contaminants.</td>
<td>1. Readjust backwash flow and/or increase duration of backwash cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Insufficient media depth.</td>
<td>2. Add media sand to achieve proper depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Increased concentration of contaminants in water supply. (Note: May only be a seasonal problem.)</td>
<td>3. Add extra filter tank(s) to system or reduce flow rate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROBLEM: AUTOMATIC BACKWASH FAILS TO CYCLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probable Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Controller power off, blown fuse or circuit breaker tripped.</td>
<td>1. Turn power on. Be sure wiring is connected. Reset circuit breaker or install new fuse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Improper setting on differential pressure switch.</td>
<td>2. Inspect seal for signs of tampering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Solenoid(s) malfunctioning.</td>
<td>3. Check connections. Clean ports. Check filter screen on water pickup assembly for damaged screen and clean or replace if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Loss of sufficient system pressure to actuate valve(s).</td>
<td>4. Check system for pressure leaks. Also, inspect filter screen on water pickup assembly for damaged screen. Clean or replace if necessary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FILTER UNDERDRAIN OBSTRUCTION OR BLOCKAGE

Infrequent flushing, the lack of chemical treatment, an improperly set backwash restrictor valve or operating the filters outside of the recommended flow range are the four most common causes of media filter underdrain blockage. All four of these situations, either singularly or in combination, will result in contaminants reaching and possibly fouling the filter underdrain. Evidence of underdrain blockage can be seen by monitoring the pressure gauges. If the pressure differential does not return to 2-6 PSI after a flush cycle there is a possibility of underdrain contamination.

First, the cause of the blockage must be determined and rectified (i.e. reset the backwash restrictor valve, increase the frequency of flushing, adjust the flow rate to comply with the manufacturer's recommendation or install chlorine injection equipment.) If the cause of the blockage has been identified and corrected, and the pressure differential does not return to 2-6 PSI after backflushing, more severe steps will have to be taken to clear the underdrain. If organic contaminants are suspected, a chlorine shock treatment may be necessary.

CHLORINE SHOCK TREATMENT FOR SAND MEDIA FILTERS

Step 1: Remove filter manway lids and fill each tank with water up to the top weld seam. It is not necessary to remove the sand. Make sure that the field valve is closed so water will be held in the filter tanks.

Step 2: Add 10 to 20 ounces of 12% pool chlorine per square foot of filtration area to each vessel. If unavailable, double the amount of chlorine bleach is an acceptable alternative.

Step 3: Allow to stand for 12 hours. **BEWARE OF CHLORINE FUMES.**

Step 4: Secure manway lids, open the field valve and initiate a backflush cycle. Flush each vessel for approximately 3 minutes and repeat the full sequence several times.

**NOTE:** One or two shock treatments will usually be enough to unplug an underdrain that is contaminated with organics. Consult the manufacturer if a high-pressure differential persists.

**SAFETY NOTE:**
Always wear eye protection, gloves and protective clothing whenever handling any chemicals. A safety water rinse station should also be available to rinse off any chemicals, which may come into contact with filter personnel. Do not mix with other chemicals in this procedure and always induce chemicals into a water filled filter tank
PORT "1" - CONNECT TO VALVE ACTUATOR PORT
PORT "2" - CONNECT TO WATER SUPPLY FROM WATER STACK
EXHAUST PORT - CONNECT TO FITTING AND TUBING FOR EXHAUST TO ATMOSPHERE

NOTE: 1. SOLENOID IS NOT POLARITY DEPENDENT.
2. FOR AUTOMATIC OPERATION, MANUAL OVERRIDE MUST BE IN OFF POSITION.
3. PLUG AND COIL CAN BE ROTATED.