

## TIMERS FOR POOL PUMPS

Bremner Pool & Spa is looking for ways to reduce expenses for our customers .The Ontario Power Authority is working with our Pool Association to potentially give incentives to pool owners to install 2 stage timers on pool pumps. They suggest that pool pumps should be run overnight when the price of hydro is reduced. In discussions with Veridian Connections (the energy provider for Pickering) there are considerable savings to be had on running pool pumps in off peak hours. Veridian is installing Smart meters on all their customers' homes by 2010. This means you will pay \$.088 per kilowatt-hour from noon to 5pm; \$.066 between 7am and 12noon and 5pm and 10pm. And \$.042 in off peak hours. These are weekends and holidays and 10pm to 7am. If you are running a 1 hp pool pump 24/7 for 4 months your cost is approximately \$350.00. So you can see if you switch to a smart meter and a timer to run your pool pump only in off peak times. You could save up to 75% of what you are spending now. These timers have to be installed by a licensed electrician and have to be two staged to shut a pool heater off 20 minutes ahead of the pump .An average cost by our electrician has worked out between \$300.00 and \$450.00. So you can see it does not take too long to recover your costs and be environmentally friendly. You can go to the Powerwise website to do your own calculations <http://www.powerwise.ca/resources/powerwise-calculator/>

My best advise would be to use the timer for 12 to 16 hour cycles in off peak hours when the weather is not too hot. However, during July and part of August, I would only shut off the pump from 12 noon to 5 pm. We don't want to sacrifice water cleanliness for electrical efficiency.