

## Low Pressure In Tank, Air In Pump Housing

If you have low pressure in your filter and air in your pump housing, it may mean that you have a suction leak. This could be something as simple as a loose plug, an old O-ring, or something more serious like a hole or crack in the plumbing line.

As the homeowner, here are a few things that you can try to do. Please note that these suggested actions are to be taken at your own risk.

- 1. FIRST, YOU MUST TURN THE FILTER PUMP OFF AT THE BREAKER!**

Failure to turn off the pump may result in permanent damage to yourself, people and/or property.

- 2. Tighten the plugs.**

The winterizing plugs that are on the pump are usually a thumb screw style, or 9/16" hex. You should see if those can be tightened, being careful not to over tighten, as they are plastic. If they can be tightened, you should remove the plugs, put a little (pea sized) dollop of RTV silicone on them and put them back in. While doing that, if the plug has an O-ring, you should check for brittleness and cracks too.

- 3. Check the gaskets for proper seating/overall condition.**

The pump housing gasket seals the top lid to the pump body. Check it for brittleness, and cracks. Make sure there are no leaf pieces or any kind of debris on the O-ring. Debris could allow air to pass as it is not making a proper seal. You should use a seal lubricant to get the maximum life out of your gaskets. We recommend using Hayward Jacks Multilube.

- 4. Check pump fittings.**

The last possibility would be a loose fitting on the front end of the pump. This is a little more involved to fix but the goal is to get the fitting out and cleaned up. After cleaning it, you should put Teflon tape and silicone on the fitting to seal it in the pump. When putting it back, get it hand tight, then turn it roughly one more rotation to get it tight. As it is only PVC, you must be careful not to break it. If the PVC is old and brittle, it may break with too much pressure from tightening. If you do not feel comfortable taking this step, please give us a call and we'll be more than happy to come out and fix the problem for you.

If the above steps do not eliminate the air in your lines, it may mean that there are pinholes or a break in the lines underground. To verify this issue, we would do a pressure drop test of the lines. If necessary, the lines would then be dug up and replaced.