



## **Getting Started With Your Aquathin MEGACHAR SYSTEM**

**Includes setup and maintenance information for:  
Aquathin Megachar System  
Models: BFF-1, BFF-2 and BFF-3  
(In full color at [www.aquathin.com](http://www.aquathin.com))**

**AN ISO 9001:2008 QMS  
REGISTERED /CERTIFIED COMPANY  
(IMS-0192 & NQA-12635)**

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Dealer Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Introduction

*Thank You* for your purchase. Aquathin turned **"30 in 2010" to enjoy its Pearl Anniversary** and it's a great feeling of self satisfaction and accomplishment to be an Authorized Aquathin Dealer. You could not have picked a better time to consider the many benefits of becoming a member of the ever growing Aquathin Family. The Next Quarter Century Celebration Begins!

*Aquathin manufactures a broad spectrum of unique and patented water purification, softening and filtration systems servicing the residential, commercial and laboratory markets. Established in 1980, Aquathin now produces over 70 patented and trademarked devices for markets around the world through more than 600 Authorized Aquathin Dealers. Aquathin is an E.P.A. Registered manufacturer, ISO 9001:2008 Certified and recipient of the prestigious President's Excellence Award in Export from the U.S. Commerce Department and the Nation's Blue Chip Enterprise Initiative Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. We have a very impressive global client list that now includes you and your family. Recently we have launched a project, two years in the making, for Authorized Aquathin Dealers to provide total home air and water security...and more. Visit the Aquathin Allergy Store online at [www.aquathin.com](http://www.aquathin.com).*

*Aquathin does not sell franchises nor do we charge for territories. We want to make sure that our Dealers are service oriented and knowledge driven. We know that even though we make the best water treatment systems in the world, ultimately they are only as good as the people representing them. And this is why we make the very best water treatment Dealers in world. Your local Authorized Aquathin Dealer has received training and continuous education from Aquathin University. You can be assured that when you purchase from an Authorized Aquathin Dealer (or from the factory directly in areas where we have yet to approve and establish a Dealer) you are receiving the finest equipment and technical support this industry is able to offer. Highest quality water treatment systems and support good enough for my home...my family.*

*And that is my promise to you! I love my Aquathin!!*

**FOR THE BEST TASTE IN LIFE &  
30 Years Pure Excellence**

*...and another Quarter Century re-inventing the water industry!*

*Think Aquathin...AquathinK !!*

*( visit the **NEW** [www.aquathin.com](http://www.aquathin.com) )*

*"Alfie"*

*Alfred J. Lipshultz, President*

*P.S. Remember...the next best thing to owning an Aquathin is recommending one to a friend!*

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CHAPTER  
1

## **GETTING STARTED**

Thank you for purchasing this quality total home water filtration system by Aquathin Corporation. Every Aquathin Series system combines several efficient methods of water treatment to achieve a very specific result. The MEGACHAR Water Filtration System provides total protection, especially in light of the growing concerns on bathing in water that contains organic pollutants, chlorine and/or chloramines. The Aquathin MEGACHAR “type” process is regarded as the “best acceptable technology” by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the removal and reduction of Radon gas and certain volatile organics.

The MEGACHAR System allows a remarkable flow rate of up to 20 gallons per minute; it saves water and reduces sewerage taxes as well.

The MEGACHAR System can be combined with the SOFT & CLEAN system to provide the ultimate clean water for your household needs.

As the new owner of an Aquathin MEGACHAR water filtration system there is a totally new experience awaiting you. Showers and baths will feel cleaner and fresher.

This manual provides information about the application and servicing of your Aquathin water filtration system. Descriptions of the components and their functions will help to answer frequently asked questions. By thoroughly reading this manual you will be better able to operate your new system and perform simple maintenance.

## **SETTING UP YOUR SYSTEM**

Your Aquathin system requires adequate water pressure; a minimum of 25 PSI (pounds per square inch) of water pressure is required for the backwash valve to operate effectively. The amount of filtered water produced depends primarily on your water pressure, flow, and the amount of chlorine, chloramines and other organics.

As the MEGACHAR water filtration system will be installed on existing plumbing sources, it is important to ensure that the condition of the existing plumbing is free from lime and iron buildup. Replace piping that has heavy lime and/or iron buildup. If piping is clogged with iron, install a separate iron filter unit ahead of the filtration system.

The Aquathin MEGACHAR system requires an uninterrupted alternating current (A/C) supply. Please make sure that the voltage supply is compatible with the unit before installation. (110V/60Hz or 220V/50Hz for international)

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

While installing the MEGACHAR system, please follow this cautionary note:

- ◆ This system is to be supplied with cold water only.
- ◆ Do not exceed 120 PSI (8.5 bar) water pressure.
- ◆ Do not exceed 110° F (43° C) water temperature.
- ◆ Do not subject the unit to freezing conditions.
- ◆ This system is not intended to be used for treating water that is microbiologically unsafe or of unknown quality without adequate disinfection before the system.
- ◆ Installation to comply with state and local laws and regulations.



## Installing Your System Requires the Following Steps:

- Identify suitable location for the unit, preferably near a clean working drain—the location should be swept clean before the unit is positioned to avoid tank puncture.
- Perform all plumbing according to local plumbing codes.
- Turn off the main water supply valve.
- Turn off the power source for the electric water heater, or if gas, turn the heat control to pilot.
- Relieve water pressure by opening any cold water faucet before cutting the water line to make the installation.
- Solder pipes to adaptors, which will be screwed into the bypass valve.
- Screw adaptors into the bypass valve before mounting the bypass valve onto the resin tank.
- Lubricate the distributor o-ring seal and tank o-ring seal. Place the main control valve on tank.
- Wrap a wet rag around the bypass valve to prevent internal damage by heat transfer as you proceed with soldering.
- NOTE: the water outlet is on the left side of the unit—you will notice that an arrow indicates the outlet—showing water flow away from the unit; whereas if you stand in front of the unit, the inlet is on your right side.
- Turn on the water supply.
- Place the bypass valve in **Bypass** position and check for leaks.
- Connect the drain line flow control fitting.
- Plug the unit into an electrical outlet.
- Set time of day and backwash program.

## 1. Unpack the System

*Contents include:*

1. Main control valve
2. Drain line
3. Carbon media tank (with distributor tube and chrome jacket cover with cap)
4. Upper basket



**Figure 1. Package Contents**

## 2. Required Tools

While installing the unit, you will need:

**Silicone lubricant** and **Teflon tape** for the fittings.

Other tools and pipes may be required by the installer for soldering and cutting while fitting the unit to the water source and drain line.

### 3. Planning the Installation

Review the following instructions completely before proceeding. (See installation diagrams in Appendix B)

- 1) Warm the valve to room temperature during cold weather

During cold weather it is recommended that the installer warm the main control valve to room temperature before operating.

- 2) Select and prepare the location

We encourage you to establish the desired location of each of the components before proceeding. It is recommended that you install the unit near a clean and working drain.

Be sure that the area where the water filtration system will be installed is swept clean before the unit is positioned for installing to avoid puncture of the storage tank.

If installed outdoors, put down plywood or a concrete stone in order to provide a flat, even surface for the MEGACHAR System to be placed upon. (CAUTION: this unit will crack if allowed to freeze).

### 4. Connecting the Control Valve to the Media Tank

- 1) Lubricate the distributor o-ring located by the control valve throat as shown in figure 2.



*Fig. 2. Lubricate distributor o-ring with silicone lubricant.*

- 2) Lubricate the tank o-ring seal, as shown in **figure 3**. NOTE: use only silicone lubricant.



*Fig. 3. Lubricate the tank o-ring.*

- 3) Attach the provided upper basket (bayonet fit) to the control valve as shown in **figure 4**.



*Fig. 4. Make sure the upper basket locks into place.*

- 4) Slide the chrome jacket cover and cap over the media tank. NOTE: For illustrative purposes the chrome jacket is not shown in the figures.



*Fig. 5. While screwing the valve onto the media tank, make sure the distributor tube locks into place.*

- 5) Screw the control valve on the media tank—turning it clockwise (**figure 5**).

## 5. Preparing Connection to Water Source

- 1) Turn off the main water supply valve for your residence / company.
- 2) Turn off power source for electric water heater.

If the water source is connected to an electric water heater, turn it off. In the case that it is connected to a gas heater, turn the heat control to pilot. If a shut-off valve is provided on the inlet side of the water heater, close that during the System installation.

- 3) Relieve water pressure

Relieve water pressure by opening up any cold water faucet before cutting the water line to make the installation.

## 6. Connecting Water Source to Bypass Valve

As the water softening system will be installed on existing plumbing sources, it is important to ensure that the condition of the existing plumbing is free from lime and iron buildup.

Replace piping that has heavy lime and/or iron buildup.

If piping is clogged with iron, install a separate iron filter unit ahead of the water softener system.

- 1) Unscrew the bypass valve

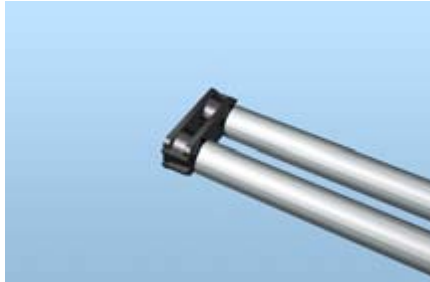
Unscrew the bypass valve from the main control valve of the unit as shown in **figure 6**.



*Fig. 6. Unscrew the bypass valve, and remove the adaptor clips.*

## 2) Solder pipes to adaptors

According to your local plumbing codes, the installer must identify appropriate pipes to be connected to the bypass valve.



*Fig. 7. Solder the pipes to the adaptors.*

The pipes must be first soldered onto the adaptors as shown in **figure 7**.

## 3) Screw adaptors into bypass valve

The adaptors can then be screwed onto the bypass valve as shown in **figure 8**.



*Fig. 8. Screw the adaptors back on the bypass valve.*

## 4) Re-attach the bypass valve

Attach the bypass valve onto the main control valve using the provided clips and tighten the screws as shown in **figure 9**.



*Fig. 9. re-attach the bypass valve to the main control valve.*

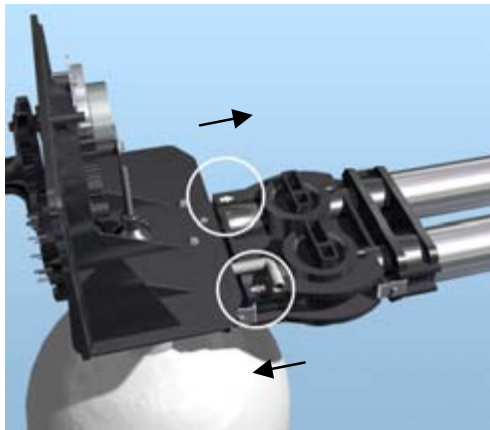
Doing so, you will be able to measure and approximate the required length of piping from the bypass valve to the water source and outlet.

## 5) Solder joints with caution

Wrap a wet rag around the bypass valve to prevent internal damage by heat transfer as you proceed with soldering. It is recommended that you leave at least 6" (152mm) between the bypass valve and solder joints when soldering pipes that are connected on the bypass valve. Failure to do this can cause interior damage to the bypass valve.

## 7. Identifying Water Inlet vs. Outlet

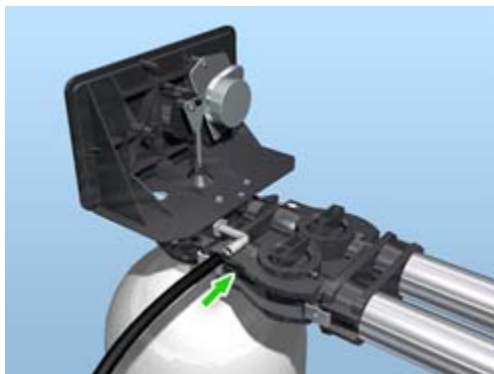
As you stand in front of the unit, the inlet is on your right, while the outlet is on the left. Alternatively, you can look for the arrow near the bypass valve outlet indicating away from the unit, as shown in **figure 10**.



*Fig. 10. The arrows on the bypass valve (as shown) indicate water inlet and outlet.*

## 9. Connecting to Drain Valve

Connect the 5/8 inch black tube provided to the drain hose barb as shown in **figure 11**.



*Fig. 11. Connect the drain line as shown*

## VERIFYING THE TUBING AND CONNECTIONS

### 1. Check Bypass Connections

Once plumbing is completed, with the bypass/service knob in the “bypass” position as shown in [figure 12](#), open the main water supply valve and check for leaks in the bypass connection.



*Fig. 12. turn the bypass knobs perpendicular to the valve in order to “close” it, as shown.*

Open a cold water tap nearby and let water run for a few minutes or until the system is free of foreign materials (usually solder resulting from the installation). Close the water tap when water runs clean.

If there are no leaks, open the inlet valve to the water heater and restore power or gas setting on the water heater.



### 2. Check the Flow to the Resin Tank

Slowly move the bypass/service knob in “service” position and let water flow into the mineral tank. This is an indication that the unit has purged itself of all air. See [figure 13](#).

*Fig. 13. turn the bypass knobs parallel to the valve in order to “open” it, as shown.*

### 3. Check the Drain Line

With the regeneration knob already in “service” position, now rotate the knob clockwise into “backwash” position (as shown in [figure 14](#)) and allow water to flow at the drain for 3 or 4 minutes.



*Fig. 14. Rotate the knob until in “backwash” position*



## STARTING YOUR SYSTEM

### 1. Plugging the unit into an electrical outlet

Once the installations are completed and you have verified the tubing and connections, you may plug the system into an approved power source.

### 2. Setting the clock on the unit

To program your Aquathin system, first you must set the time on the unit.

To set the time on the unit, refer to [figure 15](#) and take the following steps:

- First push in the red “time set button”
- Then rotate the 24-Hour Gear so that the “time of day” indicator shows the current local time (i.e. if it is 2 pm your time, the “time of day” indicator should point to “2p”)
- When you release the gear, check for firm engagement of the setting (indicated by a clicking sound).



*Fig. 15. (a) push the red button, (b) rotate the gear which is behind the regeneration knob till the time on the unit shows your local time*

### 3. Setting the water usage program

Next, the water backwashing program must be set. By setting the Day Wheel on the MEGACHAR System, the backwash and rinse cycles can be programmed to occur

automatically.

The Day Wheel allows for setting a program cycle over a 12-day period, which then repeats automatically for every subsequent period.

For instance to set the unit to backwash once every 6 days, slide the pins on day “6” and day “12” outwards.

The Day Wheel can be rotated such that the red arrow indicates the current day of the cycle. See [figure 22](#).



*Fig. 20. (a) slide pins for day 6 and 12 outwards (ensure the others are retracted)  
(b) the pin (or tab) at the red pointer indicates “today”.*

#### 4. Setting the Backwash Knob

Manually advance the control knob to the “**regeneration**” position and allow the control to return to the “in service” position automatically (approximately 90 minutes). Do not use household water until cycles are completed. This will allow the resin tank to purge all air.

CHAPTER

2

## **GETTING TO KNOW YOUR MEGACHAR SYSTEM**

Use of Aquathin MEGACHAR System results in immediate improvement of the aesthetics of water (odor and color). The Aquathin MEGACHAR “type” process is regarded as the “best acceptable technology” by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the removal and reduction of radon gas and certain volatile organics.

All components of the MEGACHR are manufactured from the finest raw materials available and carry one or more of the following validations to insure system functions and integrity: NSF Certified, FDA Approved, UL Listed, CSA, CE, BSI, TUV, ANSI Approved.

### **A LOOK AT THE KEY COMPONENTS**

#### **Manual Backwash Knob**

This 8-cycle adjustable control is efficient and reliable and it regenerates only when needed.

The backwash cycle allows for the elimination of water through the drain.

## **24-Hour Gear**

The 24-Hour Gear enables the system to monitor water usage and backwash cycles. In order to set the current time, press the Red time set button, and then rotate the gear till it reads the same time of day as your local time.

## **Day Wheel**

The Day Wheel works in cohesion with the 24-hour gear to monitor water usage and regeneration cycles. A simple method of setting the Day Wheel for typical residential applications is to set regeneration for every 6 days. In order to do this, the tabs marked 6 and 12 should be slid outwards while the other tabs are retracted.

## **OPERATING PARAMETERS**

To insure proper operation of your MEGACHAR system, it is advisable to collect the following information about your water supply. This information is generally available from your municipal water department, and in many cases is available from the website of your local Department of Public Works.

### ***Pressure***

Adequate water pressure must be available from your water supply to assure efficient regeneration. A minimum of 25 PSI is required for this system.

### ***pH***

The MEGACHAR will hold up very well when the pH of the feed water is between 2 and 11. Water supplies with pH over 11 are very rarely, if ever, found. (Chlorine bleach has a pH of ~11.5.)

### ***Chlorine and Chloramines***

Chlorine is the most common substance added to municipal water supplies. Its purpose is to eliminate biological growth (i.e. chlorine is toxic). Regulations usually require there be residual chlorine when water reaches your tap. Typically, the residual concentrations of chlorine in household water range from 0.5 to 1.0 parts-per-million (ppm). Chlorine and Chloramines can foul and destroy most softener resin and destroy rubber seals like toilet flap valves, resulting in leaks. Aquathin chooses a high capacity, clean, dedusted granular activated carbon in the U.S. to assure efficiency.

### ***Sediment***

Very high sediment concentrations can affect the media and control valve. In areas with very high sediment concentrations, it may be necessary to install a separate filter unit ahead of the MEGACHAR. Consult your local Authorized Aquathin Dealer.

### ***Iron***

Iron concentrations greater than 5 mg/l can degrade overall system performance. If your water supply has iron concentrations above 5 mg/l, pretreatment is recommended.

If piping is clogged with iron, install a separate iron filter unit ahead of the water conditioner.

### ***Hardness and More***

Two thirds of the water on earth is groundwater. As it travels through rock and soil it picks up particles of calcium, magnesium, iron, lead, and other minerals. For 85% of the country, that translates into “hard water”. “Hardness” refers to the amount of calcium and magnesium in the water and is measured in grains per gallon (gpg).

Most of the problems associated with hard water are economical in nature. Hardness causes unsightly soap scum on fixtures, water spots on glasses and whitish scale deposits in your tubs and showers. Hard water means you use more soap and cleaning agents because they first have to “clean” the water before they clean anything else.

The following guide defines your water’s hardness based on two different measurements. Our test determines the grains of hardness that can easily be converted into the ppm.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Grains of Hardness</b>	<b>Parts per Million</b>	<b>Laundry Detergent Required</b>
<b>Soft (ideal)</b>	0.0—1.0	0—18	1/4 dispenser
<b>Slightly Hard</b>	1.0—3.5	18—60	1/4 dispenser
<b>Moderately Hard</b>	3.5—7.0	60—120	1/2 dispenser
<b>Hard</b>	7.0—10.5	120—180	1/2 dispenser
<b>Very Hard</b>	10.5— over	180— over	Full dispenser

To most effectively remove hardness from your water, the Aquathin MEGACHAR System can be combined with the Aquathin SOFT & CLEAN System. Contact your Local Aquathin Dealer for more information.

CHAPTER

3

## MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING

Minimal work is required to keep your Aquathin MEGACHAR System in peak operation condition.

### **Reset Time of Day if Power Supply was Interrupted**

In case the electrical service to the unit has been interrupted, you may reset the time of day, and allow the system to proceed with its regeneration cycles.

### **Exterior Cleaning**

The exterior surface of your Aquathin can be cleaned with a soft cloth. Use a mild, non-abrasive dish washing detergent or diluted spray cleaner to remove smudges or food stains, then rinse and dry the surface. Use of abrasive scouring powders or glass cleaning products containing ammonia are not recommended.

### **OPTIONS:**

AquaShield™ 3000 and 4000 series total home sediment and anti-microbial filter.

**For more information on the options, contact your Local Aquathin Dealer.**



CHAPTER

# 4

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** How long will my Aquathin MEGACHAR last before it needs to be replaced?

**A:** You can expect media life of 1 to 3 years, when properly backwashed and depending on chlorine, chloramines and organics source water concentration.

**Q:** What should I do if my filter fails to backwash?

**A:** This could occur if your electrical service was interrupted or if you experienced power failure. You need to make sure that the power connection is functioning and then reset the “Time of Day” on your unit to the current local time. If this does not solve the problem, then contact your Local Aquathin Dealer to replace your timer.

**Q:** I am experiencing loss of water pressure—what can be done?

**A:** The line from the water source to the filter may have iron build-up; clean this line. If this does not solve the problem, then contact your local AQUATHIN Dealer to clean the main control valve and backwash the media.

**Q:** I am losing carbon through the drain line—what is causing this?

**A:** This may be caused if there is air in the water system. Make sure that your water well has proper air elimination control and check for dry well condition.



**Q:** My neighbor's water filter creates messy water puddles on the floor. Why doesn't my MEGACHAR System?

**A:** The messy puddle is a result of cold water in the tank interfacing with warmer ambient room temperature forming condensation on the tank's surface. Your MEGACHAR's decorative media tank jacket includes an internal sheath creating a dead air space preventing condensation.

**It is recommended that you contact your AQUATHIN Dealer for a regular maintenance check of your MEGACHAR System.**

CHAPTER

5

## LIMITED WARRANTY

Aquathin Corporation warrants to the original owner of each Aquathin water filtration system to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for as long as you own the product.

### **What The Warranty Covers**

Full 3 Year Warranty on the valve (cleaning and maintenance not included). Lifetime Warranty on the pressure tank.

### **Exceptions to Warranty**

The Warranty does not include damage caused by or resulting from unreasonable use, including failure to provide reasonable maintenance, or incidental or consequential damages, such as water damage or damage to appliances, fixtures or other equipment. Use of other-than genuine Aquathin components will void the Warranty.

No one is authorized to change or add to this Warranty.

### **Extending to Lifetime Warranty (refer to insert)**

In addition to Aquathin's Exclusive Factory Direct Warranty, Aquathin will extend the warranty period of the Residential MEGACHAR Series to LIFETIME under the following provisions:

- 1) The Extended LIFETIME Warranty is FREE whenever the Aquathin Point of Entry (P.O.E) MEGACHAR Water Conditioner is purchased, as a packaged same time sale with an Aquathin Point of Use (P.O.U) Reverse Osmosis Deionization (RO/DI) System.

Applicable models of the RO/DI System include KT90, AQUALITE, PLATINUM 90, PSS90 and AQUAKING.

- 2) OR the Extended LIFETIME Warranty may be purchased separately, when purchasing 1 P.O.U. or 1 P.O.E. System, at a cost of \$249.00 payable to AQUATHIN CORP. USA Headquarters, in Pompano Beach, Florida.

### **What We Will Do To Correct An Inconvenience**

Upon notice, we will repair or replace covered defective parts, free of charge to the Original Purchaser, (F.O.B. Pompano Beach, FL) excluding labor and freight for each repair or replacement.

### **How State Law Relates To The Warranty**

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty applies to the original purchaser and gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

### SPECIFICATIONS

MEGACHAR Water Filtration System comes in three models. The specifications for each model are as follows:

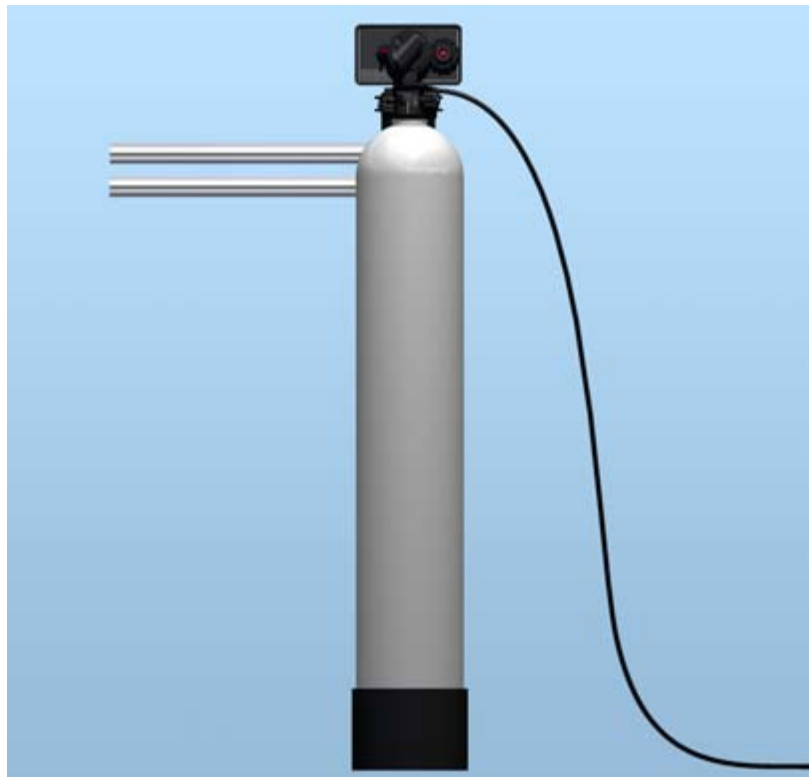
Model	Filter Media	Source Water Condition
BFF-1	1.5 cubic feet steam washed bituminous granular activated carbon	pH of 6.8 or less
BFF-2	1.5 cubic feet acid washed lignite granular activated carbon	pH of 7.5 or higher Up to 0.5 parts per million tannins
BFF-3	1.5 cubic feet equal parts BFF-2 carbon, filter aggregate, silica	Heavy sediment reduction to 10 micron

<b>MODEL</b>	<b>RATED SERVICE FLOW</b>	<b>PRESSURE DROP AT RATED SERVICE FLOW</b>	<b>PARTICULATE CLASS V AVERAGE % REDUCTION</b>
BFF-1	12 gpm	13.1 psi	99.8%
BFF-2	12 gpm	11.7 psi	99.8 %

APPENDIX

B

**INSTALLATION DIAGRAM**



Indoor connections to drain shall be designed and constructed to provide for connection to the sanitary system through an air gap of 2 pipe diameters or 25mm (1 inch), whichever is larger.



The BFF-1 and BFF-2 filter systems conform to WQA S-200 for Particulate Class V Reduction (at 12 gpm) for the specific performance claims as verified and substantiated by test data. The concentration of the indicated substance in water entering the system was reduced to a concentration less than or equal to the permissible limit for water leaving the system, as specified in WQA S-200.



ISO 9001: 2008  
CERTIFIED



7 Patents



8 Trademarks



Over 70 Systems



# 30 Years Pure Excellence

163+ Reasons to Join Aquathin

[www.aquathin.com](http://www.aquathin.com)



**75% of the Earth  
is covered by it**

**75% of the  
human body  
is made of it**

**Aquathin  
purifies 100%  
of it.**

## aquathin USA

*Purifying the Waters of the World  
for the Best Taste in Life!*



**EPA EST. NO. 52531-FL-01**