



AUTOMATION

WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT WORK

www.landtechgroup.com

434-386-5666

310 Schothum St.
Lynchburg, VA 24502

Pool/Spa Automation Systems

1.) What is automation and why might you want it?

- *Answer:* Automation allows you to be able to control equipment (pumps, heaters, lights, etc.), water features, and other elements in your outdoor living remotely from home, via your phone using an app, or with a hand held remote.

2.) Benefits of Automation.

- *Answer:* Not having to go to the pool equipment pad to turn equipment on and off, or turn valves for water features. Automations allows for owners to remotely access their equipment from at home or when they are away from home using a WIFI connection.
- Turn pool/spa lights on or off, turn pumps speeds up or down, control heater temperatures, control landscape lighting, set schedules for pumps/lighting, turn on spa jets, adjust the salt chlorinator, turn valves for water features to turn on, control multiple pumps.

3.) How does it work?

- *Answer:* The Automation panel contains both the slots for the breakers needed for the electric supply and a circuit board at the top that contains the relays to control multiple pieces of equipment. The electrician wires the equipment into the breakers for the power supply but also puts individual pieces of equipment (pumps, lights, heater, etc.) on different relays. Then when the automation is programmed, the owner can see in the app or the handheld remote the names of the different equipment and be able to control them individually.
- In addition, the automation controls the electronic valves to turn on things like bubblers, deck jets, etc. with the push of a button. The more features or pumps someone would like on their project the larger the system needed. There are several levels of automation that allowed for different capabilities; The larger the system the more items it can control.

4.) Is an automation system recommended in any particular situations?

- *Answer:* Yes. If a homeowner is going to have multiple pumps, or both a pool and spa. For example, if a homeowner has a pool and spa with spillover on the same pump the automation would allow the homeowner to be able to circulate just the pool, just the spa, or turn on the spillover so the spa pours into the pool.

5.) Can you control an automatic cover from the automation?

- *Answer:* No. Automatic pool covers can only be controlled by the cover switch that is installed with the cover. This is for safety and building code reasons. A person opening or closing the automatic cover needs to have the full pool in view when operating the cover so that they can ensure no one is in the pool while closing it or something is not on the cover while opening it.



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6.) What is required for an automation system to work?

- *Answer:* A good WIFI signal between the internet router and the pool equipment pad where the automation panel is installed. Also, a strong WIFI signal in the pool area, that allows for the app on the phone to communicate with the automation panel using the house WIFI. If there is not good WIFI signal the homeowner can install a booster for their WIFI signal or use the handheld remote which communicates directly with the automation panel without WIFI. The handheld remote option does not allow for access to the automation off site.

