

Backflushing Manual Disk Filters

Disk filters are well known for their ability to capture and hold a high degree of debris as compared to other forms of filters such as screens. They are also easy to disassemble and clean.

In some cases people want a method of cleaning the filters without having to disassemble the unit and rinsing it manually. This can be accomplished by moving water backward through the filter and venting it to atmosphere or back into a well or pond.

The action of reversing the water flow allows water to enter into the center of the ring set. This action creates downward pressure against the spring in the cone of the filter, and relaxes the individual rings. This results in much of the debris being flushed free from the rings.

The quality of flushing depends on the water quality and the type of debris in the water. Sticky debris will not backflush very well, nor does small silt that may become trapped in the grooves of the discs.

Even when manual filters are designed with some form of backflushing, they will need to be opened and cleaned occasionally.

If a thorough and automatic filter backflush is desired, the Netafim Arkal family of Disk Kleen filters should be used. These filters are specially designed so that the rings spin as they are being flushed, thus providing a complete cleaning.

The following chart outlines the amount of water and pressure needed for manual disc filter cleaning*:

Filter Size	Flushing Flow Rate	Pressure Required	Duration of Flush
¾"	15 GPM	45 - 110 psi	10 Seconds
1" & 1½" Regular	20 GPM	45 - 110 psi	15 Seconds
1" & 1½" Super	35 GPM	45 - 110 psi	20 Seconds
2" Super	80 GPM	45 - 110 psi	25 Seconds

* A pathway to vent the flushing water has to be available.