

Clean Water

At A Glance

Pools &
Hot Tubs



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Swimming pools and hot tubs contain a variety of products including chlorine, salt and acid, and filter media (sand and diatomaceous earth) that should not be discharged into the storm drainage system. If discharged into a storm drain, the water flows untreated to our local streams and rivers where it can be harmful to wildlife.

The best option for discharging chlorinated water is into your sanitary sewer system. A secondary option is to dispose of the chlorinated water on a grassy or landscaped area if you follow the appropriate steps.

Chlorinated Water Disposal Do's

Shut off chlorination system or stop adding chlorine prior to disposing of water.

Hold water in pool or hot tub for two weeks to allow chlorine to dissipate and temperature to cool (one week if using for irrigation).

Measure chlorine level with a chlorine test kit to ensure there is no chlorine detected before you dispose of/discharge the water.

If using water for irrigation, discharge water where it avoids flowing into nearby storm drains or streams.

Make sure to avoid discharging water in a way that causes it to pool or "pond" for lengthy periods of time. Pooled water creates odors and mosquito breeding conditions.

Filter Backwash Water

Backwash from pool filters must be discharged to the wastewater treatment plant. Backwash water has high concentrations of chlorine and other harmful chemicals. If you rinse cartridge filters, do so into a container or a filter cloth. Bag and dispose of collected debris in the garbage.