

Why It's Important!!

Pools, spas, and fountains are great amenities to have, but they're also stocked with chemicals such as salts and chlorine. Draining your pool or spa to the storm drain or to a waterway sends those chemicals directly into the environment where it can harm aquatic life as well as damage plants and soils.

Properly disposing of your pool water helps protect the environment.

It's the Law!!

Did you know that the Federal Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of chlorinated swimming pool water and spas directly into the storm drains or creeks?



*To report an issue
or
For more information please contact:*

**Jefferson County
Stormwater Management Division**
PO Box 100
Hillsboro, MO 63050
Phone: 636-797-6228
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Draining Swimming Pools



**Jefferson County
Stormwater Management Division**

Option 1 – Sanitary Sewer

Discharge pool water to the public sanitary sewer system or use a pump and hose to drain pool water into the plumbing fixtures or down a drain leading to the public sanitary sewer.

DO NOT direct pool water to a private septic system.

DO contact the local sewer district before sending any pool water to the sanitary sewer. The sewer agency needs to be aware of the volume of discharge and the potential effect of chlorine level.

Water flows should not exceed 20 gallons per minute when discharging to the sanitary sewer. Check with the local sewer district for any restrictions on time of day or flow rate when discharging to the public sanitary sewer.

Consult with a plumber if you are unsure where to connect to the sanitary sewer.



Option 2 – Water the Yard

If a public sanitary sewer isn't available, dechlorinated pool water can be discharged onto the grass or used to irrigate landscaping.

Before using this option, reduce chlorine in the pool water to undetectable levels (less than 0.1 mg/L). This can be done by letting the pool water sit for 10 days in the sunlight to naturally dissipate the chlorine. Use a swimming pool test kit to measure the chlorine level before draining the pool.

In a hurry? Chemical de-chlorinators can be used to neutralize the chlorine in a day or two. Follow the manufacturer's directions on the product label. Use a swimming pool test kit to measure the chlorine (<0.1 mg/L) and pH (6 to 8) before draining.

Drain dechlorinated pool water on your property and in such a way that it does not cause erosion or flooding on your neighbor's yard.

Drain dechlorinated pool water slowly to allow it time to absorb into the ground. This will prevent ponding and erosion from occurring.

Don't Forget!

- Be a good neighbor, don't create a drainage issue on another property.
- Dechlorinated pool water can be sent to the storm drain system if no other options are available.
- Check with your Home Owner's Association before directing pool water to the catch basins, ditches, streets, or storm drains. It may be against subdivision regulations.
- Dispose of un-used chlorine and pool chemicals at a hazardous waste facility. Never put it in the trash!
- When washing pool filters, discharge the wash water to the sanitary sewer. Backwash, acid wash, and plaster wastes shall never be discharged to the storm drain or creeks.
- Pool filter material (sand, Diatomaceous earth) shall not be discharged to the sanitary sewer or storm drains. It must be disposed of in the trash.