POOL MAINTENANCE

When discharged to the street, gutters, or storm drains, pool chemicals and filter solids DO NOT GET TREATED before reaching the Santa Ana River.

FOLLOW THESE TIPS FOR PROPER DISPOSAL OF POOL WATER:

- ✔ **De-chlorinate** – Chlorine naturally dissipates over time and should be completely gone if the water is left standing for 3-5 days. Use a pool testing kit prior to discharge to ensure the concentration of chlorine is zero.
- **Check pH** – determine the pH of the pool water before discharging on your own or ask your pool maintenance company to check it for you. It should be between 6.5 and 8.5.
- ✔ **Free and clear** – Make certain the water is free of any discoloration, dirt or algae.
- ✔ **Use your grass** – When discharging to a grassy area, the flow should be controlled so it doesn't cause any erosion problems or enter a neighbor's property.
- ✔ **Avoid metal-based algaecides** (i.e. copper sulfate). If used, empty your pool or spa into the sewer.

Chlorine, acid cleaning chemicals and metal-based algaecides used in pools can kill beneficial organisms in the food chain and pollute our drinking water.

WHEN ACID CLEANING OR OTHER CHEMICAL CLEANING:

Neutralize the pool water to pH of 6.5 to 8.5, then discharge to the sewer.

WHEN DRAINING YOUR POOL:

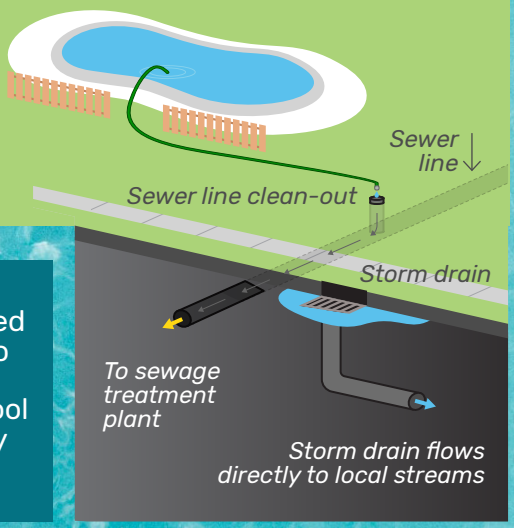
- ✔ Before draining your pool, contact your city for approval to drain your pool water into the sewer or storm drain.
- ✔ Saltwater pools must only be drained to the sewer or hauled away. Check with your pool maintenance company for draining requirements.

FOR SWIMMING POOL AND SPA FILTER BACKWASH:

- ✔ Dispose of solids into trash bag, then wash filter into a landscape area. Discharge water to the sewer, never to the storm drain.

Many pools are plumbed to discharge directly to the sanitary sewer but call your plumber or pool maintenance company if you are unsure.

What's the difference between discharging to the sewer vs storm drain?



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY STORMWATER PROGRAM
WHERE WATER MEETS COMMUNITY

To report illegal dumping or toxic spills, call **(877) WASTE18** or visit **sbcountystormwater.org/report**

To dispose of hazardous waste, call **1 (800) OILYCAT**

sbcountystormwater.org

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