

Filter Cleaning & Backwashing

- ❏ Cleaning and Backwashing water from pool filters must be collected, contained and discharged to the sanitary sewer, on-site septic tank or drainfield System.
Do not discharge to a stream, ditch or storm drain.
- ❏ Neutralize acid wash wastewater and discharge to sanitary sewer.



Penalty and Fine

The discharge of wastes, directly or indirectly, into our storm water system violates the Utah Water Quality Act. Violators are subject to civil and/or criminal action.

The Salt Lake Valley Health Department has the authority to issue penalties up to \$10,000 on a per day basis for such discharges. Willful or knowing discharges may be criminally prosecuted.

All wastewaters must be contained, collected and properly disposed of regardless of whether chemicals are used.

Documented discharges in violation of the swimming pool and wastewater regulations will result in the issuance of a notice of violation and the imposition of an administrative penalty or fine.

Please protect Our
Water Supply System



Do Not Discharge
Pool or Spa Water to a
Street or Storm Drain.



Remember, We All
Live DOWNSTREAM



**Guidelines
for
Proper Disposal
of
Swimming Pool
&
Hot Tub Water**

Visit the **Salt Lake County Storm Water Coalition** web page:
www.stormwatercoalition.org

Salt Lake Valley Health Department web page:
www.slvhealth.org

This pamphlet is provided by the
Salt Lake Valley Health Department
788 E Woodoak Ln. Murray, Utah 84107
(801) 313-6700



What goes
down the
gutter ends up
in a creek



Rules and Regulations

1. The Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-107 states:

"...It is **unlawful** for any person to discharge a pollutant into waters of the state or to cause pollution which constitutes a menace to public health and welfare, or is harmful to wildlife, fish or aquatic life, or impairs domestic, agricultural, industrial, recreational, or other beneficial uses of water, or to place or cause to be placed any wastes in a location where there is probable cause to believe it will cause pollution."

2. Salt Lake City-County Health Regulation #13 Section 10.1 Wastewater Disposal states:

"It shall be **unlawful** for any person to place or conduct any sewage or waste water into any street, alley, sidewalk, gutter, watercourse, canal, river, stream, or other water of the State of Utah, or onto or in any landscaped area, vacant land, or other place not suited or designated for the disposal of sewage or waste water."

Guidelines for Proper Disposal

Discharges are best prevented and minimized by proper maintenance and operation of your pool. This includes the control of water chemistry, no unnecessary chemical usage, covering and tightly securing your pool during the off season to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris. Maintaining a year round level of disinfectant in your pool and spa and utilize the circulation system year round.

Best The **legal** option is to discharge chlorinated water from pools and hot tubs to the sanitary sewer (sewage treatment plant).

Good If your pool or hot tub is not hooked up to the sanitary sewer, wastewater can be pumped to floor drains or toilets etc. Chlorinated water **cannot** be discharged into storm drains or surface waters.

Residential Under limited conditions when discharge to a sanitary sewer is not possible, then chlorinated water from pools and hot tubs may be disposed onto landscaped areas **under the following circumstances:**

- ❖ Prior to discharging the water, shut off the chlorination system if you have one, or stop adding chlorine. Hold the water in the pool or hot tub for a few days to reduce the chlorine level.
- ❖ Make sure the water is not cloudy, the pH is neutralized, and the chlorine level is below 0.1 milligrams/liter before discharging. Discharge or irrigate the water in an area where the water will not flow into a stream or storm drain. Use sandbags or berms if necessary.
- ❖ Do not discharge in high ground water or onto saturated soils. You must have a sufficient area for effective dispersion of discharge to prevent ponding. Do not employ any form of subsurface injection (pressure or gravity) into the ground.
- ❖ Discharge or irrigate the water on your property and ensure that it does not flow off your property.
- ❖ Discharge or irrigate the water in a manner that will prevent nuisance conditions (such as creation of odors, and fly and mosquito breeding conditions). Nuisance conditions occur when water is ponded for a prolonged period.
- ❖ Do not discharge on areas recently treated with herbicides or pesticides of any type.
- ❖ Minimize temporary flooding and erosion when draining a pool or spa by discharging

The Pollution Problem

The pH, chlorine level, and possible presence of algaecides and other chemicals in your pool water may be toxic to the plant and aquatic life in the streams. Water pollution in our streams can also affect our drinking water supply. It is **illegal** to discharge any water into the storm drain or streams.

We have Two Different Water Conveyance Systems

In Salt Lake County, there are two water conveyance systems. The first system is the **sanitary sewer** system which conveys sewage and wastewater to treatment plants where the water is treated and discharged under permit to streams and rivers.

The second system is the **storm water** system. In this system, storm water from gutters, streets, and parking lots flow directly into the streams and rivers without treatment of any kind.

Unlike the sanitary system, the only water allowed in the storm water system is storm water.