

For More Information

Leading a regional approach to stormwater management, Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's (WVSA) Stormwater Division maintains a comprehensive Public Outreach & Education program on behalf of its 31 member municipalities.

Additional information about pool water discharge can be found on our website at wvsa.org/stormwater-management.

Questions concerning pool water discharge guidelines can also be directed to Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre at 570-826-2511 .

To contact WVSA's Stormwater Division, please call 570-825-3416.



*You 'otter know...
we all live downstream.*

WVSA Stormwater Division

1000 Wilkes-Barre St.
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Swimming Pool Water Discharge

GUIDELINES

For Residents

ABOUT POOL WATER

Water from swimming pools and hot tubs often contains high levels of chlorine. Discharging chlorinated pool or spa water into streams, (irrigation canals or ponds, etc.) is harmful to fish and other aquatic life. The discharge of any sewage or industrial waste, including swimming pool water, to any waters of the commonwealth without a permit is a violation of the Clean Streams Law, the Act of June 22, 1937, P.L. 1987, as amended.



DISCHARGE GUIDELINES

Disposal of Water to Sanitary Sewer

1. If the municipal authority grants permission, pool backwash water, pool cleaning wastewater and standing water may be discharged to the sanitary sewer system (while it can also be released in grassed areas of your property).

Neutralize water before discharge by following these steps: a) Prior to disposal of pool water to a sanitary sewer, shut off the chlorination system if there is one, or stop adding chlorine. b) Hold the water in the pool or hot tub for at least two weeks to allow the chlorine to dissipate. c) Measure the chlorine level in the pool or hot tub prior to discharging the water. The water should not show any detectable levels of chlorine. A longer holding period may be necessary if chlorine levels continue to remain at detectable levels at the end of two weeks. Chlorine measurements can be made with a chlorine test kit (colorimetric).

2. Plan discharge for low-use times of sewer flow such as afternoon or late night hours.

3. Use small volume pump and control discharge so it does not spill out. (< 800 gallons per minute).

DISCHARGE GUIDELINES CONT'D

4. Discharge with hose into access "cap" of the private property sewer cleanout. **DO NOT** use public manholes or cleanouts.

5. Care should be taken to make sure the discharge goes into a sanitary sewer and not a storm sewer, which would discharge to a stream. If sanitary sewers are not in the immediate area, the wastewater should be hauled off-site for disposal at an approved treatment facility.

6. Water from backwashing pool filters should not be discharged to a stream, ditch or storm sewer. Backwash from pool filters must be discharged to the sanitary sewer, on-site septic tank and drain field system (if properly designed and adequately sized), or a seepage pit.

