



Maintenance of
**Pools, Spas &
Water Features**

Your Community. Your Environment. Your Choice.
Help keep Chula Vista clean.



Storm Water Management Section
Department of Public Works
1800 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA 91911

www.chulavistaca.gov/clean

Pool and spa chemicals may be harmful to our environment!

The water you drain from your swimming pool, spa or other water features such as fountains and koi ponds, may be heavily laced with chemicals such as chlorine, copper or bromine.

These chemicals are designed to keep the water in swimming pools clean and clear. Alternatively, the same chemicals, when released into the storm drain system, may kill important parts of the natural aquatic environment in our local waterways.



Make better choices... *with the environment in mind.*

Drain swimming pool, spa, reflective pool, pond, or fountain water by either:

- ~ Flowing water to the sanitary sewer system or
- ~ Slowly draining the water onto a landscaped or pervious area to infiltrate or evaporate, without resulting in erosion or runoff to the storm drain system or adjacent property.

Water can only be drained to the storm drain system if pollution prevention measures are implemented. The water must:

- ~ Be free of chemicals, and chlorine must test at less than one part per million (ppm)
- ~ Be free of vegetation or debris
- ~ Have a pH of 7-8
- ~ Be free of color and contain no algae
- ~ Flow at a rate that will not cause downstream flooding or erosion

The surface flow path must be cleared of trash, debris, and sediment before the water is drained to the storm drain.

Other maintenance tips:

- ~ Prior to discharging large quantities of water to the sanitary sewer system, contact the City's Wastewater Engineering Section at (619) 691-5021.
- ~ It's best to clean your pool's filter over a lawn, planter box, or another surface that absorbs liquids. Collect pool debris on a filter cloth and then discard the cloth in the trash.
- ~ Chlorine naturally dissipates over time and, if you do not add chemicals to the water for 5 to 7 days, your pool will be free of chlorine, and ready to drain to the storm drain.
- ~ Drain backwash discharge into the sanitary sewer system through a legal sewer connection.
- ~ It is illegal to dump discharge from backwashing or acid cleaning into the storm drain system.
- ~ Saline swimming pool water is prohibited from entering the City's storm drain system.