



# DISCHARGING SWIMMING POOL & HOT TUB WATER

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Water from swimming pools and hot tubs contains high levels of chlorine, bromine, and other chemicals that can harm the environment when drained improperly. Chlorinated water can percolate through the soil, inhibit plant growth, and contaminate groundwater. If it enters storm drains it will ultimately discharge to Spring Creek, Utah Lake, or the Jordan River where it can harm aquatic life.

Use the following best management practices when draining your pool or hot tub.

### **DISCHARGE TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:**

It is preferred that pool and hot tub owners discharge chlorinated water to the sanitary sewer system. Permission must be granted from Timpanogos Special Service District (801-756-5231) before discharging to the sewer to ensure the discharge complies with their regulations. Public pools are required to discharge to a public sanitary sewer when one is available within 300 feet of the property line (Utah Administrative Code R392-302-5).

### **DISCHARGE TO GROUND:**

If it is not possible to discharge to a sanitary sewer, water from pools and hot tubs may be discharged to the ground if the pH level is between 7 and 8, it does not contain solids (algae, sediment, leaves, etc.), it does not cause soil erosion, it does not flow onto someone else's property, and it does not create a nuisance condition such as ponded water for a prolonged period of time.

### **DISCHARGE TO STORM DRAIN:**

Dechlorinated swimming pool and hot tub water is an allowable discharge to the storm drain system according to the Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit (General Small MS4 UPDES Permit Part 1.2.2.2). Water can only be discharged to a storm drain if authorization has been granted by the Lehi City Water Department (385-201-1700) and it is not feasible to discharge to the sanitary sewer or ground. Before discharging there must be no detectable levels of chlorine present, the pH must be between 7 and 8, and it must not contain solids (algae, sediment, leaves, etc.).

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

Pool filter backflush must not be discharged to the ground, storm drain system, or surface waters. Filter backflush must be discharged to the sanitary sewer system or to an onsite septic system.

All water containing solids must be filtered before discharging to the sanitary sewer, onsite system, ground, or storm drain system.

**SALT POOLS:**

Salt pool water should not be discharged to surface waters. Discharge salt pool water and backwash water with no solids to the public sanitary sewer or use a licensed sewage handling service to dispose of salt pool water properly.