

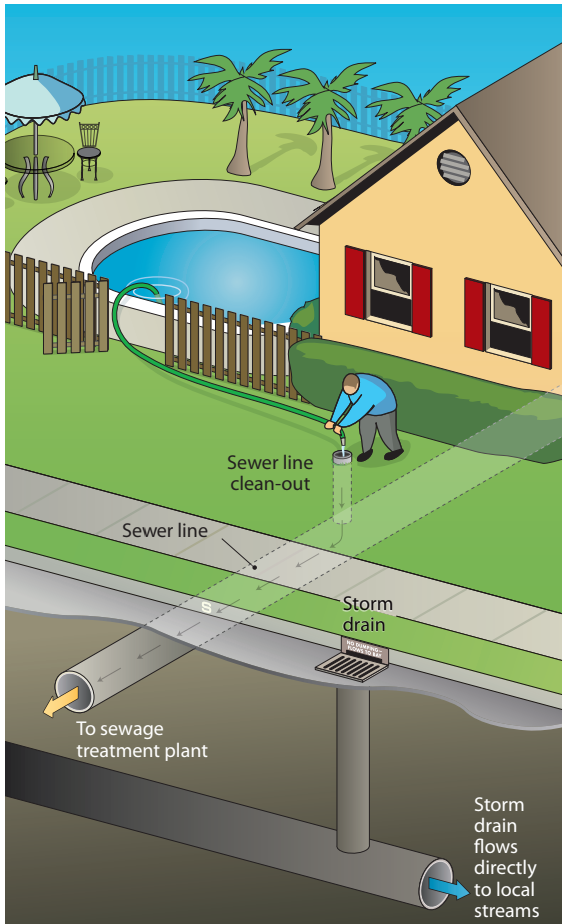


Finding your sewer cleanout

Look on your property for a small circular cap on a pipe or for a concrete or metal cover marked "Sewer," "C.O." or "S." Cleanouts are often located under them.



In either case, remove the cap and place the hose in the pipe to drain. To prevent backflow, don't let the end of the hose touch the bottom of the sewer pipe while draining.



EID acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program for developing and sharing the artwork seen above and some of the content in this brochure.

For More Information

Storm water pollution:

El Dorado County Storm Water Pollution Prevention (530) 621-5927

http://www.edcgov.us/Government/EMD/HazardousMaterials/Storm_Water_Pollution_Prevention.aspx

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

Sanitary sewer discharges:

El Dorado Irrigation District (530) 622-4513

www.eid.org

Household hazardous waste disposal:

El Dorado County Environmental Management (530) 626-4141 or

Call the local household hazardous collection center at (916)933-6692 or go to their website to find out where to dispose of hazardous waste for free.

<http://www.edcgov.us/HazardousMaterials/>

EID's Industrial Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Program

2890 Mosquito Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Phone: 530-295-6867

Fax: 530-344-5667

www.eid.org

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Draining a Swimming Pool



Helpful tips for draining pools, spas, and fountains to avoid harming streams, lakes, and other waterways

Courtesy of
El Dorado Irrigation District's
Industrial Pretreatment and
Pollution Prevention Program



El Dorado Irrigation District

"Serving people, agriculture, businesses, and the environment in El Dorado County since 1925"

Did you know?

It is illegal to discharge chlorinated water to the storm drain system.

Water in pools, spas, and fountains is treated with a variety of chemicals such as chlorine and other additives. Draining into storm drains can harm our waterways.

Properly maintained pools, spas, and fountains reduce the need to drain

We recommend that you take the following steps to minimize the number of times you have to drain your pools, spas, and fountains.

- Pay attention to the proper chemical levels.
- Maintain the water filtration and circulation systems.
- Manage pH and water hardness. This will reduce copper pipe corrosion that can stain your pool and end up in waterways.
- Hold down algae buildup through regular chlorine use, which prevents the need for the more toxic algaecides. And ask your pool maintenance service or local pool supply store for help in resolving persistent algae problems without using copper algaecides.

When cleaning your pools, spas, and fountains:

- Don't clean a filter in the street, gutter, or storm drain.
- Rinse cartridge filters onto a dirt area, and shovel filter residue onto the soil.
- Wash sand and diatomaceous earth filters onto a dirt area and dispose of spent filter materials in the trash.

How to drain to the sewer

If you don't have a suitable dirt area to drain your pool, the guidelines below can help you discharge properly to the sewer.

- 1 Control discharge rate.** Discharging too quickly and at too high a rate can cause the sewer to back up in your house, your neighbor's house, or from manholes in the street. Typically, the sewer cleanout and service line to your home can handle the discharge from a 2-inch hose.
- 2 Control discharge quality.** Maintain the proper chemical balance and filtration in pools and spas. The desirable pH level is 7.4 to 7.6, while the desirable level of free (total) chlorine is 1.0 – 3.0 parts per million. A pool company can help you determine and adjust your pool's pH and free chlorine levels.
- 3 Settle backwash.** Provide a settling tank for filter backwash water before discharging to the sewer. And remember: Put your spent diatomaceous earth filter material in the garbage.
- 4 Minimize chemical use.** Dispose of unwanted or unused hazardous pool chemicals properly and use copper algaecides only when necessary. The back panel on this brochure list sources of more information about how to properly dispose household hazardous waste.

Remember

It is illegal—as well as a safety hazard—to discharge your pool water into a manhole.

Getting EID Involved

EID must approve any discharge equal to or greater than 25,000 gallons per day. To calculate the volume of your pool, visit <http://www.backyardcitypools.com/swimming-pools/Pool-Volume-Calculate.htm>

EID must also approve any permanent plumbing connection to the sanitary sewer. Please contact us prior to construction.

What not to discharge

Wastes from acid washing or from “shocking” the pool should not be discharged to the sewer until the pH has been neutralized and/or the free chlorine level has been reduced. **The pH of discharges to the sewer should range from 6.0 to 9.0. The free chlorine level should be equal to or less than 4.0 parts per million.**

If you plaster or grout your pool or spa, don't discharge waste materials or water used in the work to the storm drain or sewer.



“Shocking” your pool with high concentrations of chlorine or other chemicals is a standard method of keeping algae growth in check. **But before you drain your pool, you must ensure that the pH is between 6.0 and 9.0 and free (or total) chlorine levels are under 4.0 parts per million (ppm).**