



City of Encinitas

POOL DRAINING

The City of Encinitas' Clean Water Program regulations regarding swimming pool discharges: Although our current permit regulations state that swimming pool water is an allowable discharge, there are some restrictions. Please see the regulations outlined below:

A discharge of pollutants into the storm water conveyance system is in violation of Municipal Code Section 20.08.040.B., which states that non-stormwater is prohibited from entering the storm water conveyance system (storm drain). The storm drains are designed to alleviate flooding only and do not treat water prior to its discharge into the ocean.

The discharge of pool water is allowed into the storm drain conveyance only if the discharge is clean and de-chlorinated. The residual waste from the pool filters must be disposed of properly and not allowed to flow to the storm drain system. This waste constitutes an illegal discharge of pollutants when allowed to drain to the storm water conveyance system.

Implementation of the following Best Management Practices is required in order to protect local receiving water quality when draining swimming pools:

- **Allow pool water to stand for several days without the addition of chemicals. This will allow the chlorine to dissipate prior to discharge.**
- **Back flush all diatomaceous earth from pool filters to landscape and dispose of properly. The diatomaceous earth may not be discharged to the storm drain.**
- **Discharge pool water slowly and in a manner that does not cause erosion or damage to downstream properties.**

It is highly recommended that pool water is repurposed for landscape irrigation. Please do your best to keep all water on your own property and avoid erosion of dirt/sediment. Erosion of sediment causes additional pollutants such as bacteria to enter our storm drain system which flows to sensitive creeks, lagoons and the Pacific Ocean.

Thank you again for your help and cooperation. Please feel free to call us anytime if you have questions about our program or to report stormwater pollution at **(760) 633-2787**.