

# Saltwater Pools

- Salt water pools, although different from regular pools, are in fact, sanitized using chlorine. A salt-chlorine generator separates the chlorine and sodium molecules in salt and reintroduces them into the pool water. The same harmful effects of chlorine still apply.
- A salt water pool is still maintained with chemicals such as Muriatic acid, soda ash and sodium carbonate to help keep a proper pH, total Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and Stabilizer levels.



- It may be illegal to discharge salt water to land. The salt may kill plants and the build-up of salt in soil puts animals, plants, and groundwater at risk. Consult your city representatives to determine local requirements regarding salt water drainage.

**NEVER put unused chemicals into the trash, onto the ground or down a storm drain.**

**IMPORTANT:** The discharge of pollutants into the street, gutter, storm drain system or waterways - without a permit or waiver - is strictly prohibited by local ordinances, state and federal law. Violations may result in monetary fines and enforcement actions.

# Helpful telephone numbers and links

## RIVERSIDE COUNTY WATER AGENCIES:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| City of Banning.....                          | (951) 922-3130 |
| City of Beaumont/Cherry Valley.....           | (951) 845-9581 |
| City of Blythe.....                           | (760) 922-6161 |
| City of Coachella.....                        | (760) 398-3502 |
| City of Corona.....                           | (951) 736-2263 |
| City of Hemet.....                            | (951) 765-3710 |
| City of Norco.....                            | (951) 270 5607 |
| City of Riverside Public Works.....           | (951) 351-6140 |
| City of San Jacinto.....                      | (951) 654-4041 |
| Coachella Valley Water District.....          | (760) 398-2651 |
| Desert Water Agency (Palm Springs).....       | (760) 323-4971 |
| Eastern Municipal Water District.....         | (951) 928-3777 |
| Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District..... | (951) 674 3146 |
| Elsinore Water District.....                  | (951) 674-2168 |
| Farm Mutual Water Company.....                | (951) 244-4198 |
| Idyllwild Water District.....                 | (951) 659-2143 |
| Indio Water Authority.....                    | (760) 391-4129 |
| Jurupa Community Services District.....       | (951) 685-7434 |
| Lee Lake Water.....                           | (951) 658-3241 |
| Mission Springs Water.....                    | (760) 329-6448 |
| Rancho California Water District.....         | (951) 296-6900 |
| Ripley, CSA #62.....                          | (760) 922-4951 |
| Riverside Co. Service Area #51.....           | (760) 227-3203 |
| Rubidoux Community Services District.....     | (951) 684-7580 |
| Valley Sanitary District.....                 | (760) 347-2356 |
| Western Municipal Water District.....         | (951) 789-5000 |
| Yucaipa Valley Water District.....            | (909) 797-5117 |

## CALL 1-800-506-2555 to:

- Report clogged storm drains or illegal storm drain disposal from residential, industrial, construction and commercial sites into public streets, storm drains and/or water bodies.
- Find out about our various storm drain pollution prevention materials.
- Locate the dates and times of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Events.
- Request adult, neighborhood, or classroom presentations.
- Locate other County environmental services.
- Receive grasscycling information and composting workshop information.

Or visit our

Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
website at: [www.rcflood.org](http://www.rcflood.org)

## Other links to additional storm drain pollution information:

- County of Riverside Environmental Health: [www.rivcoeh.org](http://www.rivcoeh.org)
- State Water Resources Control Board: [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov)
- California Stormwater Quality Association: [www.casqa.org](http://www.casqa.org)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):  
[www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance) (compliance assistance information)



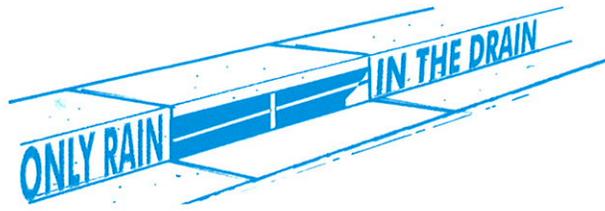
Riverside County's, "Only Rain Down the Storm Drain" Pollution Prevention Program gratefully acknowledges the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association and the Cleaning Equipment Trade Association for information provided in this brochure.

# Guidelines for Maintaining your...



# Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi and Garden Fountain

## Where does the water go?



Pool, Jacuzzi and Fountain wastewater and rain water runoff (also called stormwater) that reach streets can enter the storm drain and be conveyed directly into local streams, rivers and lakes.



A storm drain's purpose is to prevent flooding by carrying rain water away from developed areas. Storm drains are not connected to sanitary sewers systems and treatment plants!

Wastewater, from residential swimming pools, Jacuzzis, fishponds and fountains, often contains chemicals used for sanitizing or cleansing purposes. Toxic chemicals (such as chlorine or copper-based algaecides) may pollute the environment when discharged into a storm drain system.

The Cities and County of Riverside have adopted ordinances that prohibit the discharge of wastewater to the street and storm drain system.



## Discharge Regulations

Regulatory requirements for discharging wastewater from your pool may differ from city to city. Chlorinated water should not be discharged into the street, storm drain or surface waters. Check with your water agency to see if disposal to the sanitary sewer line is allowed for pool discharges (see reverse for Riverside County sewer agencies).

If allowed, a hose can be run from the pool Jacuzzi, or fountain to the private sewer cleanout, washing machine drain or a sink or bathtub.



**If you cannot discharge to the sewer**, you may drain your fountain, pool, or jacuzzi to your landscaping by following these guidelines:

**First**, reduce or eliminate solids (e.g. debris, leaves or dirt) in the pool water and allow the chemicals in the pool water to dissipate before draining the pool (this could take up to 7 days, verify using a home pool test kit).

**Second**, slowly drain to a landscaped area away from buildings or structures. Control the flow to prevent soil erosion; it may take more than one day to empty. Do not allow sediment to enter the street, gutter or storm drain.

## Maintenance & Chemicals

### Cleaning Filters

Filter rinse water and backwash 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. Alternatively, rinse water or backwash may be diverted to landscaped or dirt areas. Filter media and other non-hazardous solids should be picked up and disposed of in the trash.



### Algaecides

Avoid using copper-based algaecides unless absolutely necessary. Control algae with chlorine, organic polymers or other alternatives to copper-based pool chemicals. Copper is a heavy metal that can be toxic to aquatic life when you drain your pool.

### Chemical Storage and Handling

- Use only the amount indicated on product labels
- Store chlorine and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff. Keep out of reach of children and pets.
- Chlorine kits, available at retail swimming pool equipment and supply stores, should be used to monitor the chlorine and pH levels before draining your pool.
- Chlorine and other pool chemicals should never be allowed to flow into the gutter or storm drain system.

Take unwanted chemicals to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Event. There's no cost for taking HHW items to collection events – it's FREE! Call 1-800-506-2555 for a schedule of HHW events in your community.

