

# BMP: Alternative Discharge of Chlorinated Water



**Chlorinated water from swimming pools should not be discharged to the storm sewer system or directly into a waterbody (Source: The Pool Guy, 2001)**

## DESCRIPTION:

Chlorinated water discharged to surface waters has an adverse impact on local water quality. Swimming pools are a major source of chlorinated water discharged into sanitary and storm sewer systems. An average swimming pool holds 19,000 gallons of chlorinated water. Pools have high concentrations of chlorine, which is toxic to wildlife and fish.

## APPROACH:

Many pool owners who live in cooler climates drain their swimming pools to reduce maintenance and potential damage from freezing during harsh winters. These individuals should not discharge pool water to the storm sewer system or directly into a water body and should investigate alternative discharge options.

- Pool owners obtain permission from local sanitary sewer operators or municipal treatment plant operators and discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
- Discharge the chlorinated water to land, where it will not drain to local surface waters.
- De-chlorinate the water before draining the pool.
- Allow the water to sit for 2 weeks before draining the pool so the chlorine can evaporate.

## LIMITATIONS:

- Enforcement of safe discharge of chlorinated water may be difficult to achieve.

## APPLICATIONS

- Manufacturing
- Material Handling
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Construction
- Commercial Activities
- Roadways
- Waste Containment
- Housekeeping Practices



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## TARGETED POLLUTANTS

- Sediment
- Nutrients
- Heavy Metals
- Toxic Materials
- Oxygen Demanding Substances
- Oil & Grease
- Floatable Materials
- Bacteria & Viruses

- High Impact
- Medium Impact
- Low or Unknown Impact

## IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- Capital Costs
- O&M Costs
- Maintenance
- Training

- High
- Medium
- Low