



Draining Swimming Pools & Hot Tubs

Please drain safely and responsibly!

Draining water from pools or hot tubs onto lawns where water can seep into the ground is permitted in Eugene, as long as it doesn't flow into the street or storm drain system. The primary concern is for chlorine levels which are harmful to fish and other aquatic life.

TO IRRIGATE SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY, TAKE THESE STEPS:

For small pools and tubs (10 kgal or less):

- Stop adding chlorine and/or turn off any chlorination systems prior to releasing water.
- Allow water to sit for a week to allow chlorine levels to dissipate before draining.

For larger pools and tubs:

• Measure the chlorine level in the pool or hot tub first. Chlorine levels should not be detectable. If chlorine is present, chlorine neutralization chemicals such as sodium thiosulfate may be needed. Allowing the water to sit for a week can help chlorine levels to dissipate. Chlorine measurements can be made with a chlorine test kit (colormetric).

- For discharges to the sanitary system, chlorine levels also need to be undetectable.

NOTE: Pool filter back-flush must NOT be discharged to a stream, ditch or storm drain. Pool filter back-flush must be discharged to the sanitary system, onsite septic system (if properly designed and adequately sized), or a seepage pit.

MONITOR THE FLOW

Always discharge water in a way that prevents nuisance conditions such as odors, the creation of insect breeding sites (standing water), or overflow onto a neighbor's property.

For more specific information about releasing pool and hot tub water into the ground, call 541-682-4800. For information about releasing discharges into the sanitary system, call 541-682-8600.



Eugene Public Works
Stormwater Management



541-682-2739



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