Where Do I Drain My Pool?

Never drain your pool or hot tub water directly to a storm sewer or creek.

Draining Your Pool or Hot Tub

Pools and hot tubs should be drained to the sanitary sewer. But if your residential pool or hot tub is not connected to the sanitary sewer, drain the water onto the surface of the ground after it is de-chlorinated. Just remember to follow these guidelines:

- Wait a few days after chlorine has been added to drain the pool or test with a pool kit to ensure the water is de-chlorinated.
- Drain the water onto the lawn or a vegetated area to ensure the water is absorbed into the ground.
- Do not discharge water onto your neighbors property or into a stream.
- Ensure the drainage does not create nuisance conditions such as foul odor or habitat for mosquitoes.

What if I Have a Septic System?

DO NOT drain your pool to your household sewage treatment system. Doing so may overload your system.

Remember, your sewage treatment system functions under normal water usage conditions for your household.



Try to avoid draining your pool directly to a storm sewer, stream or lake. All water in storm sewers flows directly to lakes and streams, untreated. Pool drainage may contain chemicals, bacteria, and high nutrient levels which are harmful to organisms in lakes and streams. Do your part to prevent stormwater pollution and to keep Lake Erie clean! Remember, our drinking water comes from Lake Erie. Do you want to drink your pool water?

For more information, contact:

Lake County General Health District (440) 350-2543, or

Lake County Stormwater Management Department (440) 350-5900

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