



Storm Water Best Management Practices for Pool & Spa Owners

Did you know that there are two sewer systems?

- The **sanitary sewer** collects waste water from homes, business and industry from sinks, toilets and other outlets. It goes to the water treatment plant for treatment.
- The **storm sewer** collects runoff from streets. There is no treatment for the storm sewer; storm water goes into the ground and eventually into the ground water. Anything dumped or left in the street or gutter is pollution that can enter retention basins where children and pets play and from there can infiltrate and contaminate our ground water. Discharges that can introduce pollutants into our waterways through storm water runoff *include pool chemicals, pool filter media, automotive fluids, litter, sediment, pesticides and many other materials that can come from our homes, vehicles, and businesses.*

Best Management Practices for Pool & Owners

1. Filter Maintenance
 - When replacing filter, sand, diatomaceous earth, etc., follow the disposal requirements.
 - Do not discharge backwash water into the street or gutter. It should go into the sanitary sewer cleanout.
 - Do not clean or rinse filter or cartridges into the street or gutter.
2. Pool Draining
 - Call the Gilbert Public Works Department at 480-503-6400 and provide the following information
 1. Name
 2. Address
 3. Phone Number
 4. Date of planned discharge
 5. Some information about your neighborhood
 - Follow one of these three options (*in order*):
 1. Drain all or a portion of the pool water onto your personal property making sure that no water leaves your property.
 2. Make sure that the chemical level in your pool is as low as possible (so *no residue* will be left) and drain it into the street or gutter. This option is only available if your street is not subject to flooding, you don't have salt water pool, you don't have a green pool, and you don't live in a lake community.
 3. Drain the water into your sanitary sewer cleanout. This is a connection to your home's lateral sewer line, usually in front of your house. **It is important to notify Public Works before choosing this option.**
4. Other Maintenance
 - Store pool chemicals in covered containers and check for leaks regularly. Store in a well ventilated, dry area, out of direct sunlight. Buy only what you need to avoid waste. If you have chemicals that you no longer need, take them to the Gilbert Household [Hazardous Waste Facility](#).
 - Dispose of wastes and spills properly. Call 9-1-1 immediately if there is an out of control spill or reaction.
 - Dispose of leaves and other landscape material properly, do not put them where they may wash into the storm system. Leaves and other materials can cause clogs that may cause flooding.
 - Don't overfill pool; allow enough room for rain fall.

Only Rain in the Storm Drain