

PLANNING ON DRAINING YOUR SWIMMING POOL OR HOT TUB?



Swimming pool and hot tub water contain chemicals harmful to plant and aquatic life and can negatively impact our drinking water supply.

Where Can I Drain?

- Depending on the soils and slope of your property, it's ok to drain on site if water infiltrates well and does not flow onto adjacent properties.
- [SVMC 22.150.110.C.7](#) allows you to drain your pool, hot tub/spa to the City of Spokane Valley storm drain system **IF the following actions are taken to the water:**
 - Dechlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm or less
 - pH-adjusted to between 7.0 and 8.0 and reoxygenated if necessary
 - Control the volume and velocity when discharging to avoid resuspension of sediment transport in the public drainage system

Pool Draining Best Practices:

- Let water sit for at least a week before draining. This allows chlorine to break down to less toxic levels and temperature to cool down to the ambient air temperature.
- Use a pool test kit to verify chlorine and pH levels are at allowable concentrations.
- Drain water slowly and monitor frequently for flooding of downstream structures. This could take 2-4 days depending on the size of your pool.

Do Not:

- ✗ Discharge to the sanitary sewer system. The sewer system is designed and intended for sanitary sewer usage only.
- ✗ Discharge directly to rivers, lakes, streams or wetlands.
- ✗ Discharge backwash water from your filter to the storm system.

If you have any questions, please contact Cory Olson at colson@spokanevalleywa.gov.

