

R-10

POOLS AND FOUNTAINS

Consider pollution prevention measures at all times for improving pollution control. Implementation of pollution prevention measures may reduce or eliminate the need to implement other more costly or complicated procedures. Pool and fountain maintenance activities have the potential to contribute directly to the storm drain system. This is done through draining these structures, along with spills of pool and fountain maintenance chemicals, which are allowed to enter the storm water system.

Think before leaving anything but rainwater get into the storm drains. The ocean starts at your front door.

The following pollution prevention principles apply to most industries:

- Affirmative Procurement – Use alternative, safer, or recycled products.
- Redirect storm water flows away from areas of concern.
- Reduce storm water flow across facility site.
- Move or cover potential pollution from storm water contact.

Designated BMPs

- A. Do not use copper-based algaecides. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives, such as sodium bromide. Manage pH and water hardness to minimize corrosion of copper pipes.
- B. Discharge pool and fountain water properly. When draining fountains, never discharge water to a street or storm drain; discharge to the sanitary sewer or to the landscaping.
 1. When draining pools or fountains avoid discharging water to a street or storm draining, if feasible; discharge to the sanitary sewer if permitted to do so.
 2. If draining a pool to the sanitary sewer, prevent back flow by maintaining an “air gap” between the discharge line and the sewer line (do not seal the connection between the hose and sewer line). Be sure to call the local sewer authority for guidance on flow rate restrictions, back flow prevention, and

handling special cleaning waste (such as acid wash). Keep discharge flows to the low levels. Higher flow rates may be prohibited by local ordinance.

3. If water is de-chlorinated with a neutralizing chemical or by allowing chlorine to dissipate for a few days (do not use the facility during this time), the water may be recycled/reused by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area, or discharged to the street if gutters are swept clean beforehand from the discharge point to the storm drain inlet if practical. Water should be tested prior to discharge to ensure that chlorine is less than 0.1mg/l.
- C. If discharging to landscaping, allow chlorine to dissipate for a few days and then recycle/reuse water by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area. Water must be tested prior to discharge to ensure that chlorine is not present (concentration must be less than 0.1ppm).
- D. Properly clean and/or dispose of filters.
 1. Never clean a filter into the street or so that rinse water enters a storm drain.
 2. Rinse cartridge filters onto a dirt area, and work filter residue into soil.
 3. Dispose of spent diatomaceous earth in the garbage. Diatomaceous earth cannot be discharged to surface waters, storm drainage systems, septic systems, or on the ground. Backwash diatomaceous earth filters onto dirt.
 4. If there is not a suitable dirt area, discharge filter backwash or rinse-water to the sanitary sewer if permitted to do so by the local sewer agency.