



## In Summary

Waste water generated by pools can contain contaminants such as chlorine, muriatic acid, solids from filtration and sulfur compounds. These materials can degrade local waters when allowed to flow into our storm drain system. Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a treatment plant. Water ultimately flows into our creeks and tributaries.

In addition, if you are caught allowing anything but rain into the storm drain, you could be subject to severe penalties and/or fines, plus the cost of cleanup.

We need to stop stormwater pollution at the source.



### Remember:

**Only Rain In the Storm Drain**

## Contact Information

To report a spill during regular business hours call the City of Newark's Police Chief at 302-366-7100.

After hours call 911 or contact the DNREC Emergency Response Hotline at 1-800-662-8802.

For waste disposal and recycling questions call the Delaware Solid Waste Authority Citizens Response Line at 1-800-404-7080.

For general stormwater program information contact the Stormwater Program Coordinator at 302-366-7040 or visit our website at:

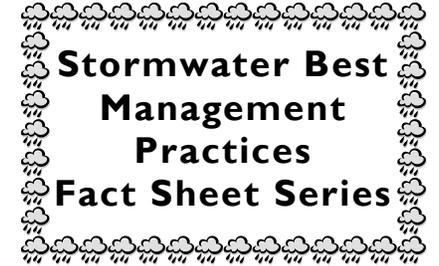
<http://www.cityofnewarkde.us/NPDESstormwaterprogram>

The City of Newark  
Public Works and Water Resources  
Department  
220 South Main Street  
Newark, DE 19711



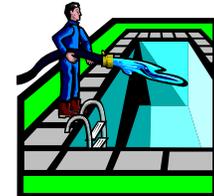
## Pool Owners

City of Newark  
Public Works and  
Water Resources



## Stormwater Best Management Practices Fact Sheet Series

## Pool Owners



This brochure has been prepared to educate pool owners about preferred waste pool water composition and disposal in order to protect the water quality in storm drains, and ultimately, the creeks and tributaries in Newark.

## Why should I care about Stormwater?

This brochure is intended to educate pool owners about preferred waste pool water composition and disposal, which minimizes the potential for storm water and water quality degradation.

Water that flows into the storm sewer system does not get treated at the waste water treatment plant. It flows through a series of pipes and discharges either directly or indirectly into our creeks and tributaries. To minimize the potential for water quality problems, we need to work together to clean up our stormwater at the source.



Before you allow anything to flow into a storm drain, stop and think about how the water ultimately flows untreated into the creeks and tributaries in Newark.

## Pool Tips

It is recommended that pool owners have use of a pool test kit that tests, at a minimum, pH and chlorine or bromine levels. It is important to test these levels on a regular basis.

Do not allow pool water to discharge directly into the storm drain system, instead look for alternative disposal methods. This could include landscaping, irrigation, or storage to use next pool season.

Once the chemical balance is checked, another method of water disposal is to allow it to flow slowly across a vegetated area making sure it doesn't impact neighboring properties, any water body, or flow into the street.

Discontinue chlorination and let pool water sit for a few days prior to disposal to allow chlorine levels to dissipate to undetectable levels.

Make sure the pH of the discharged water is between 6.5 and 8.5. Any chemicals added to achieve this pH should be completely mixed in.

## Pool Tips

Avoid mixing of pool chemicals by only handling one at a time with separate handling tools. Do not store liquids above containers of incompatible substances.

Don't throw hazardous waste into the trash or into a storm drain. For hazardous waste disposal questions contact the Delaware Solid Waste Authority at 1-800-404-7080.

Since backwashing is usually done using the pool water, make sure the chlorine level in the backwash water has been allowed to dissipate or has been dechlorinated to undetectable levels. Similarly, the pH of the backwash water should be between 6.5 and 8.5.

**These are only general recommendations, for more specific guidance contact DNREC at 302-739-9946**

