



“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.” — John Muir

When it rains, storm water flows over driveways, lawns, sidewalks, roads and parking lots on its way to the nearest entrance into the storm drain system.

In most cases the storm water system discharges this polluted runoff to the nearest creek, stream or ultimately the river with NO treatment.

This is unlike the water that goes down the toilet or sinks in your home which discharges to the wastewater system for treatment.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, polluted storm water runoff is the nation’s greatest threat to clean water.

Storm water pollution is toxic to fish and wetland wildlife.

It threatens all of us who use and enjoy our most valuable resource – WATER!

*Conserving Resources Today For  
Redding's Tomorrow.*



CITY OF REDDING PUBLIC WORKS

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## Redding Municipal Utilities Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

### Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMP'S)

## Draining Your Pool or Spa and Filter Back Washing

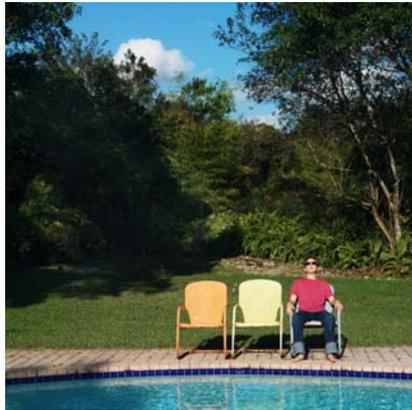
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A Guide for City of Redding Residential  
and Commercial Pool and Spa Owners

## Pool and Spa Water and Filter Back Wash

Pool and spa water should be drained to the sanitary sewer or a vegetated area on your property and not to the storm drain or gutter.



It is Against the Law to Drain a Pool or Spa or Back Wash the Pool Filter to a Storm Drain.



## Draining Your Pool or Spa to the Sanitary Sewer

If algacides are used in your pool, testing may be required prior to draining your pool to the sewer.



Locate the sewer clean out on your property or an indoor drain such as a sink that you will be using.

Notify the City of Redding's Industrial Waste Division 530-224-6049, 24 hours prior to draining if your pool contains 100,000 gallons of water or more.



Obtain a sump pump that pumps approximately 20 gallons or less per minute. You will also need a hose and an extension cord. Sump pumps are available at equipment rental stores. Sump pumps should only be running when water is available, otherwise the motor will overheat.

Pump the water from your pool or spa to the sewer clean out or indoor drain.

Place discharge hose above the level of water in the sewer inlet to prevent any backflow of sewage into the pool. Replace cover to keep rodents out of the sewer.

## Pool and Spa Water and Filter Back Wash is Harmful to Creeks and the River



Chlorine, bromine, algacides, biocides, water conditioners, stabilizers, and other chemicals in pool water are toxic to fish and other aquatic life.

Diatomaceous earth, cellulose fiber, and sand filter back wash can fill in stream gravel preventing oxygen from reaching fish eggs and young fish. Diatomaceous earth and cellulose fiber's fine particles will also cloud creek water, clogging fish gills.