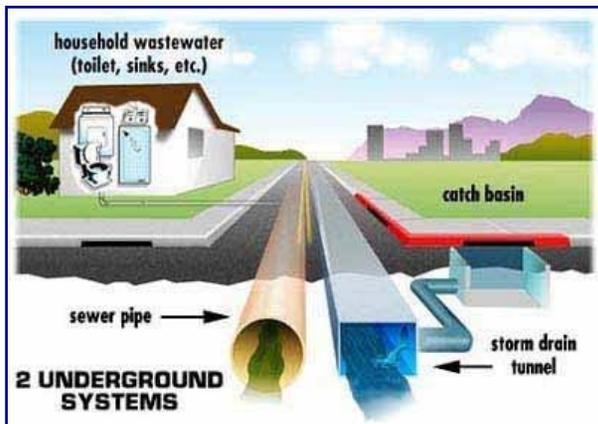


## Pollution Prevention is up to you!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? In Pinellas County, storm drains flow directly into our creeks, lakes, Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico without treatment.

The primary purpose of storm drains are to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. When cleaning your pool, it is illegal to dump dirty or chlorinated water into the street where it can flow into the storm drain system. Disposing of chlorinated pool water and filter backwash into storm drains causes serious ecological problems- and is PROHIBITED BY LAW.



## Only Rain Down the Storm Drain!

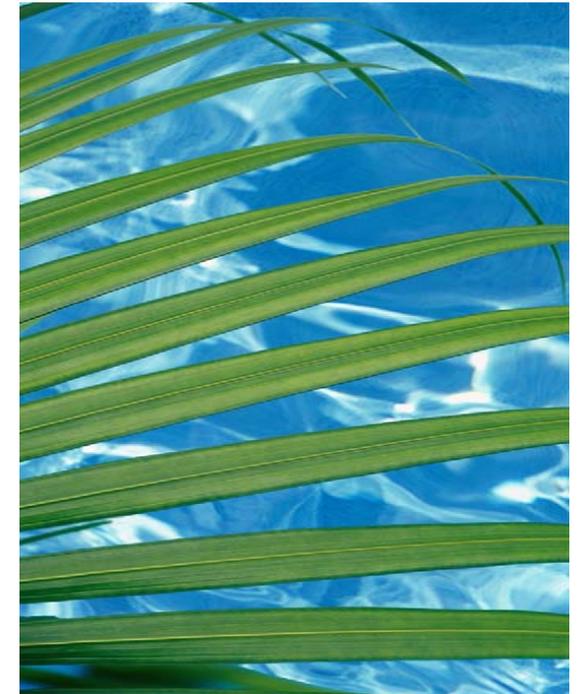
This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm water protection measures. To request additional pamphlets please contact:

Pinellas County Department of  
Environmental Management  
Watershed Management Division  
(727) 464-4425

Other pamphlets in this series include:

- Power Washing
- Concrete and Mortar
- Landscaping

## Preventing Urban Runoff Pollution

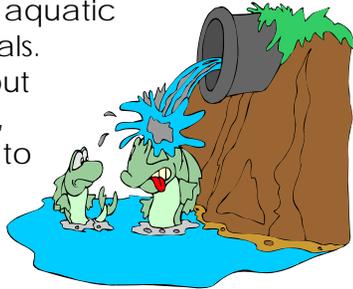


## Best Management Practices For Pool Construction and Maintenance



## Pinellas County Stormwater Regulations

Pinellas County's Stormwater Ordinance, Chapter 58, Article VI, is intended to protect the water quality and natural habitats of creeks, lakes, and marine waters that receive discharge from our drainage system. The ordinance states that any discharge to the drainage system or to a waterway that is not composed entirely of stormwater is prohibited. **This means that no pollutants of any kind, including pool filter backwash (such as diatomaceous earth), chlorinated pool water, masonry material or concrete washout may be discharged to the storm sewer system. The storm sewer system includes roadways, stormdrains, ponds, or other waterways.** Chlorinated pool water and filter backwash can adversely affect aquatic plants and animals. Concrete washout hardens in pipes, which may lead to blockages and flooding.



Additionally, connecting a discharge pipe from a pool to the county drainage system is illegal.

Violations of the Stormwater Ordinance may be fined up to \$10,000 per day and payment for cleanup of illegal discharges maybe required.

## Best Management Practices

The following Best Management Practices, or BMPs, are procedures that should be used to prevent pollutants, such as dirty or chlorinated pool water, from entering our storm drains and polluting our waterways.



- Before draining, allow water to sit in the pool for several days to dissipate the chlorine. Test the water to ensure chlorine has dissipated before draining;
- Drain water to vegetated areas such as a lawn or garden;
- Particulate filter material such as diatomaceous earth must be disposed of in a dumpster or other approved receptacle;
- During pool construction, prevent track out by having a designated construction entrance stabilized with gravel or wheel wash. Sweep up any material tracked onto the roadway daily;
- Do not store construction materials (e.g. sand, gravel, etc.) in the road. Keep all materials within the construction site property;
- Have an equipment wash out area at construction sites where the masonry or concrete residue can harden. Hardened material can then be disposed of in a dumpster or other appropriate receptacle. A wash out area can be made from staked hay bales and plastic sheeting. Pump the concrete washout back into the mixer for reuse;

- Protect stormwater curb and drop inlets that receives stormwater runoff from the construction site with appropriate protection devices;



- Store construction materials under a cover and ensure products are protected from wind, rain, and runoff. Open bags of particulate, granular, or powder materials should be stored indoors if possible. If stored outside, bags need to be covered or closed, and should be kept in secondary containment;
- Keep all oil, fuel, and other chemicals properly contained and out of the rain;
- If equipment leaks occur, make sure the leak is repaired as soon as possible. Use an absorbent material such as clay or kitty litter to collect the free product and dispose of the absorber in the trash. Utilize a drip pan to collect any leaking fluids and recycle or dispose of the fluids properly. Train all personnel in proper procedures to avoid and clean up spills.

### Who Can You Contact?

For more information, or to report illegal dumping, please call (727) 464-4425 (during business hours)

24 hour voice-mail: (727) 464-5060  
(non-emergency spills only)

For Emergencies: Please contact your local fire department