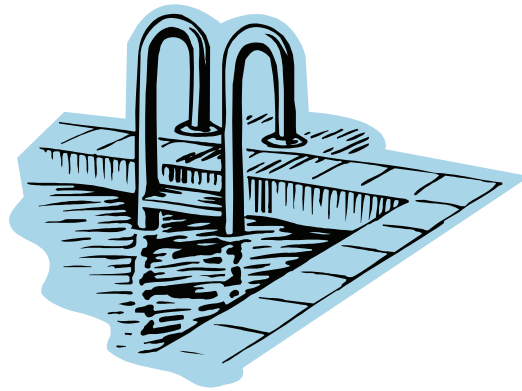


Pools, Spas, Ponds and Fountains

The draining of pool, pond, fountain or spa water into a storm drain harms the environment because it enters the storm drain system untreated. Pool water can contain chemicals such as chlorine, metals such as copper, and filter backwash that can harm waterways and wildlife.



To avoid polluting Miguelito Creek and the Santa Ynez River follow these simple rules every time you drain your pool, spa or water feature.

- Dechlorinate your residential pool, spa or water feature water, prior to discharge to the storm drain, by adding chemical dechlorination or by letting the chlorine decrease on its own for at least 48 hours.
- Let the water percolate slowly into landscaping, rather than directing it into the storm drain.
- Maintain the proper chemical balance and filtration in your pool. This will reduce the need to drain the pool or spa and will prevent excessive corrosion of pipes and equipment.
- Use copper algaecides only when necessary, such as when less toxic algae control products are ineffective.
- Dispose of wastewater from washing cartridge filters in landscaping.
- Don't dispose of your old pool chemicals in the trashcan, take them to the City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center. For more information please call (805) 875-8024