



## CITY OF DICKSON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

CITY OF DICKSON  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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# Solutions to Water Pollution



## Guidelines for Proper Pool Care



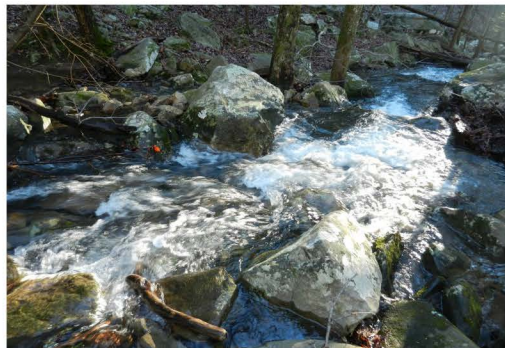
Unlike pollution from industry or sewage treatment facilities, which is caused by a discrete number of sources, stormwater pollution is caused by the daily activities of people everywhere. As rainwater and snowmelt run over streets, lawns, farms and construction sites, pollutants such as fertilizers, soil, pesticides, oil, grease, and pathogens are picked up and carried by the stormwater. The runoff carrying these pollutants is then discharged without treatment into bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and the provision of drinking water.





## What's wrong with draining my spa, pool, or filter backwash to the street or storm drain?

- These drains lead to streams, rivers, lakes, and creeks.
- The chlorine, algaecides, stabilizers, and other chemicals that you may put in your pool are toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms.
- Cellulose fiber, diatomaceous earth (DE), and sand particles from backwash water can reduce oxygen available to fish and can fill the gaps between rocks in a stream bed therefore limiting ideal habitats for aquatic organisms.
- Cellulose fiber and diatomaceous earth can clog the gills of fish.



## How do I properly dispose of my filter backwash water?

- You can direct your filter backwash water into the sanitary sewer system.
- If you have a well-vegetated area in your yard you can drain the filter backwash water into this area.
- Or you can reuse the filter backwash water to water your plants. However, be careful because this water is high in salt content and might be harmful to certain species of plants.



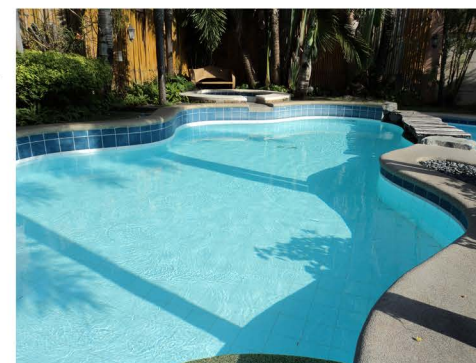
## How do I safely store and use my pool chemicals?

- Always store your chemicals indoors in labeled containers that close tightly.
- Make sure chemicals are out of the reach of children and pets.
- Never pour chemicals onto the ground or into the storm drains.
- Always use the amount given on the label of the chemical.



## How do I properly drain my pool?

- First you must properly dechlorinate your pool!
- The water should be dechlorinated to  $<3$  mg/L (ppm) of chlorine and have a pH between 6.5 and 8.5 before it is safe to drain.
- You can dechlorinate your pool simply by letting your pool sit for 5-10 days without adding chlorine.
- You can purchase dechlorinating additives.
- After dechlorinating the pool water you can drain your water into a well-vegetated area in your yard or into a sanitary sewer.



Proper drainage



Improper drainage