

## To Back Wash Pool Filters:

### **For Diatomaceous Earth (DE) and Cellulose Fiber Filters:**

Use a separation tank to capture the DE or cellulose fiber and direct the water back into the pool. This method conserves water and saves money by not having to refill the pool.

### **For Sand Filters:**

Leach the back wash water to a lawn or other vegetated area making sure the water does not leave your property.

If not using the methods listed above, pump the DE, cellulose fiber, or sand filter back wash water to a sewer clean out or indoor drain.

### **For Cartridge Filters:**

Rinse cartridge filters over a kitchen sink or over a lawn or other vegetated area.

## Is a Sewer Different From A Storm Drain?

**Yes!** All outside drains flow directly to creeks through gutters and storm drains. These drains can be in sidewalks, curbs, parking lots, and grassy fields. Anything poured into a storm drain flows directly into creeks without treatment or filtering.

## How do I Dispose of Pool/Spa Chemicals?

By taking them to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility!

Novato Residents ..... 892-7344  
Novato Businesses ..... 892-6395  
All Other Marin Residents ..... 485-6806  
All Other Marin Businesses ..... 485-5648

## GOT QUESTIONS?

<b>Almonte Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>388-8775</b>
<b>Bolinas Co, Public Utility District</b> .....	<b>868-1224</b>
<b>City of Belvedere</b> .....	<b>435-3838</b>
<b>City of Mill Valley Public Works</b> .....	<b>388-4033</b>
<i>Sanitary District</i>	
<b>City of Sausalito</b> .....	<b>332-0240</b>
<b>County Sewer Maintenance District</b> .....	<b>499-6524</b>
<i>Murray Park-Kentfield, San Quentin Village</i>	
<b>Homestead Sanitary District #1</b> .....	<b>388-4796</b>
<b>Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>472-1734</b>
<i>Lucas Valley, Marinwood, Northgate, Portola Gardens, San Rafael Meadows, Santa Venetia, Terra Linda</i>	
<b>Novato Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>892-1694</b>
<i>Bahia, Bel Marin Keys, Hamilton, Ignacio, Novato</i>	
<b>North Marin Water District</b> .....	<b>897-4133</b>
<b>Richardson Bay Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>388-1345</b>
<i>Del Mar Estates, Hawthorn Terrace, Strawberry</i>	
<b>Sanitary District #1</b> .....	<b>461-1122</b>
<i>Fairfax, Greenbrae, Kentfield, Kent Woodlands, Larkspur, Ross, San Anselmo, Sleepy Hollow</i>	
<b>Sanitary District #2</b> .....	<b>927-5057</b>
<i>Corte Madera</i>	
<b>Sanitary District # 5</b> .....	<b>435-1501</b>
<i>Tiburon</i>	
<b>San Rafael Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>454-4001</b>
<b>Sausalito-Marin City Sanitary District</b> .....	<b>332-0244</b>
<b>Seafirth</b> .....	<b>454-8084</b>
<b>Tamalpais Community Services District</b> .....	<b>388-6393</b>
<i>Kay Park, Tam Valley, Tam Woods</i>	

MCSTOPPP would like to thank the City of Santa Rosa for allowing us to modify their brochure on pools and spas

*A Guide for County of Marin  
Residential and Commercial*

## Draining Your Pool or Spa?

## Back Washing Your Pool Filter?

## HERE'S WHAT TO DO WITH THE WATER!

Marin County  
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program  
P. O. Box 4186 • San Rafael, CA 94913  
415-499-6528  
[www.mcstoppp.org](http://www.mcstoppp.org)

## To Drain Your Pool or Spa to the Sanitary Sewer:

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

### STEP 1:

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

### STEP 2:

Notify your local sanitary district and/or wastewater treatment plant 24 hours prior to draining your pool or spa.

### STEP 3:

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 your local home improvement or equipment rental store.

### STEP 4:

Pump the water from your pool or spa to the sewer clean out or indoor drain. When finished, make sure to replace any clean out covers to keep rodents out of the sewer.

*When Draining or Back Washing to a Vegetated Area, the Water Should Not Leave Your Property!*

## Pool and Spa Water and Filter Back Wash Should be Drained to the Sanitary Sewer or a Vegetated Area NOT to the Storm Drain or Gutter



If you're on a septic system, let the chlorine dissipate for 5 - 7 days and then drain it gradually on to a landscaped area or unpaved surface on your property.

## WHY IS POOL AND SPA WATER AND FILTER BACK WASH HARMFUL TO CREEKS?

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

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

**Is it Against the Law to Drain my Pool or Spa or Back Wash my Pool Filter to a Storm Drain?**

**YES !** Dischargers could be fined up to \$25,000 per violation, CA Fish and Game Code Section 5650.