



LOS ANGELES SWIMMING POOL DISCHARGES

“TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT”

Watershed Protection



Clean Water Program



Solid Resources Program



Env. Quality Program



OUTLINE

- BACKGROUND
- LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE
- BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES – STORM DRAIN
- BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES – SANITARY SEWER



BACKGROUND

Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Swimming Pool Discharges

In order to protect storm drains, channels, creeks and bays, guidelines have been established regarding the discharge of swimming pool water in the City of Los Angeles.

Why is this procedure necessary?

The decision on how to handle swimming pools discharge based on Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board of the State of California “MS-4” [Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (Ms4 Stormwater Program) Discharges] and NPDES permit of the City

Regulatory issues regarding the discharge of swimming pool water and the two methods by which it may be discharged are explained in this presentations



LOS ANGELES

MUNICIPAL CODE 64.70

LAMC 64.70.03 ELIMINATION OF ILLICT DISCHARGES AND ILLICIT CONNECTIONS

A. Prohibitions of Illicit Discharges. No person shall discharge non-storm water to the storm drain system, unless authorized by a separate or general NPDES Permit or if the discharges is exempted or conditionally exempted by the Municipal Storm Waters and Urban Runoff NPDES Permit for Los Angeles County, as provided or as subsequently amended or if granted as a special wavier or exemption by the Regional Board.

2. Conditionally Exempt Discharges. The following non-stormwater discharges may be allowed to be discharged into the storm drain system, subject to all appropriate BMP's.

(I) Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges;



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

REQUIREMENTS TO DISCHARGE TO THE STORM DRAIN (for Residential/Private Pools)

- Discharges allowed after implementation of specified Best Management Practices, as follows:
 1. Discharges of cleaning waste water and filter backwash allowed only if authorized by a separate NPDES permit. Contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
 2. Implement BMPs and ensure discharge avoids potential sources of pollutants in the flow path to prevent introduction of pollutants prior to discharge to the MS4 and receiving water.
 3. Swimming pool water must be dechlorinated or debrominated using holding time, aeration, and/or sodium thiosulfate. De-chlorinate or de-brominate swimming pool, spa or decorative fountain water by allowing the water to sit for a few days without adding chlorine or adding a de-chlorinizing agent to the water prior to discharging it to the gutter. Chlorine residual in the discharge shall not exceed 0.1 mg/L. Swimming pool discharges are to be pH adjusted, if necessary, and be within the range of 6.5-8.5 standard units.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

REQUIREMENTS TO DISCHARGE TO THE STORM DRAIN (for Residential/Private Pools)

- Continued;
4. Swimming pool water shall not contain any detergents, wastes, or algaecides, or any other chemicals including salts from pools commonly referred to as “salt water pools” in excess of applicable water quality objectives. Pool or spa water containing copper based algaecides is not allowed to be discharged to the MS4.
 5. Swimming pool discharges shall be volumetrically and velocity controlled to promote evaporation and/or infiltration.
 6. When discharging to a storm drain, examine the down stream catch basin for cleanliness prior to releasing the water. Clogged catch basins may cause the discharged water to flood surface streets. Call (800) 974-9794 to report a clogged catch basin.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

REQUIREMENTS TO DISCHARGE TO THE STORM DRAIN (for Residential/Private Pools)

- Continued;
7. Discharges to the storm drain system are allowed between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
 8. Advanced notification is required for discharges at 100,000 gallons or above, at least 72 hours prior to the planned discharge. For such discharges please contact: lastormwater@lacity.org.
 9. For discharges of 100,000 gallons or more, immediately prior to discharge, the discharge pathway and the MS4inlet to which the discharge is directed shall be inspected and cleaned out.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

REQUIREMENTS TO DISCHARGE TO THE SANITARY SEWER

- Residential pools are exempt from wastewater permitting requirements, however non-residential pools are required to obtain a wastewater permit if they generate wastewater from pool/spa/fountain/pond draining, pool deck draining or filter backwash processes. Typical facilities required to obtain a wastewater permit include but are not limited to: recreation centers, schools, health clubs, hospitals, hotels, etc.
- Additionally, please refer to the latest LADBS Information Bulletin/Public-Building Code regarding the Design and Construction of Swimming Pools.



CONTACT INFO

The following agencies are responsible for granting permits for connections and discharges to the sanitary sewer system or the storm drain system:

a. Discharges to Sanitary Sewer System - Industrial Wastewater Permit. Permit application and information can be found at the Industrial Waste Management Division website: www.lacitysan.org/industrialwaste Or if you would like to contact LA Sanitation's Industrial Waste Management Division, please call at (323) 342-6200 or email us at San.IWMD@lacity.org.



CONTACT INFO

b. Sewer or Storm Drain Connection Permit. To install a connection to the sanitary sewer system or the storm drain system, contact your local Development Services Center. To determine the nearest center to you, please visit Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety website: <https://www.ladbs.org/locations/all-locations>.



CONTACT INFO

c. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. This permit is required for non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system that are not “Exempted” or “Conditionally Exempted”. Contact the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board located at 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013, or call (213) 576- 6600.



Thank you

