



Attention Pool and Spa Owners & Pool and Spa Service Companies

A message from the Town of Marana, Public Works Department

This flyer was developed to provide recommendations for the appropriate discharge of pool & spa water. There are two reasons for pool and spa discharges: filter backwashing, or pool/spa emptying. Since these two operations release different concentrations of chemicals they must be handled differently.

BACKWASH WATER:

Section 314 of the Pima County Code requires that backwash water be contained on site. Backwashing your pool filter is a frequent event that releases filtered materials or impure water from a pool or spa. This water frequently contains high levels of chlorine and other potential contaminants. These contaminants may not be released off-site and may be used on-site to water salt-tolerant plants. Please remember to move the discharge hose frequently to avoid mosquito infestation due to standing water.

POOL/SPA DRAINING:

Occasionally, a pool or spa may need to be partially or fully drained in order to make repairs or correct water chemistry. Section 31 of the Pima County Code also directs owners to drain pools and spas onto their property. Due to the infrequent discharges of this type (generally pools are drained every 5-7 years and spas typically every 2 years), the lower chemical concentration (if no chemicals are added for at least 3 days prior), and the inability (lack of sufficient land area) to contain such a large discharge on-site then the Town of Marana permits the owner to drain pools into drainageways or onto streets under the following conditions:

- 1) Water being discharged shall be chlorine free as demonstrated on a typical pool testing kit.
- 2) Water will be at a pH must fall between a range of 7-8pH.
- 3) There must be no known biological hazards in the water such as Hepatitis or other communicable disease.
- 4) No erosion may occur due to the drainage. Hoses into drainageways must be placed at the bottom of the channel and the discharge be slowed by hay bails or other means.
- 5) Any stain or residue resulting from water flowing in the streets or gutter shall be removed by rinsing with potable water or other approved means.
- 6) Any standing water shall be brushed away and draining will not be permitted when the possibility of freezing may occur.
- 7) The pool contractor or owner shall contact the Town of Marana Public Works Department prior to draining the pool and provide a test kit to verify the water standard.
- 8) At no time shall discharged water run onto a neighbor's property or across a sidewalk.