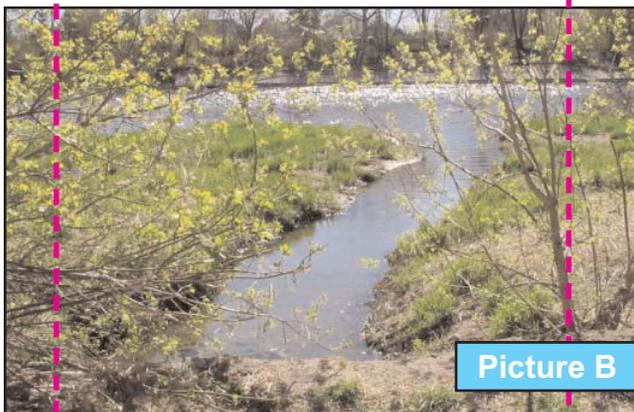


How it's all connected:

Picture A: catch basin – where the water enters the storm sewer system and flows through to outfalls, which flow out to the natural environment, Picture B.



Contacts

If you need additional information on swimming pool or hot tub wastewater, please contact the City of Brantford Pollution Control Department at: **519-752-5263.**

Thank you for protecting our natural areas and our environment.

What is Wrong with Discharging Swimming Pool or Hot Tub Water onto the Roadway?

In the City of Brantford, the storm sewer system is completely separate from the sanitary sewer system. The main function of the storm sewer system is to drain rainwater away from city streets and parking lots. This system helps the water get back into the natural environment and helps prevent flooding of houses and roads. Everything that enters the storm sewer system

flows directly out into our environment without treatment. If swimming pool or hot tub water is discharged onto a roadway, it will flow into the storm sewer system and directly into creeks and rivers.

The discharge of pool or hot tub water to waterways can cause harm to the natural ecosystem since pool and

hot tub water can contain chemicals such as chlorine, bromine, chloride salts, copper-based algacides, nonylphenols and nonylphenol ethoxylates, which are designed to kill and prevent growth of algae and bacteria.

How Should I Drain My Swimming Pool or Hot Tub or Dispose of Backwash Water?

There are two preferred methods for disposing of your pool waste water; to a sanitary drain attached to your residence or to your lawn. There are precautions to be taken with either method. When you discharge the water to a sanitary drain, that water is treated at the Sewage Treatment Plant prior to being discharged to the Grand River. Discharging the water onto a grassy or vegetated area on your property will help replenish the groundwater supply and allow the water to percolate through the plants and soil, which will filter out sediment and allow the chlorine and organics to be consumed.

When pumping to a floor drain or laundry sink in your basement, monitor the drain you are using in the house to avoid overflowing.

When discharging to your lawn ensure the water does not cause erosion or impact or damage any neighbouring properties.

There are situations where neither of the preferred options is possible. In these cases allow the draining water to travel through grass before reaching a roadway and entering the storm water system. The draining water must be monitored to ensure that no property damage is occurring and that the water on the roadway is not causing a nuisance.

Salt water pools should never be drained to the storm sewer system as the water contains high levels of chlorides. If discharging to the sanitary sewer system or onto your property is not possible, salt water pool water must be hauled by a Ministry of the Environment-approved hauler.

Rain water or melted snow collected on your pool cover can be discharged to the storm sewer system as long as you remove leaves and other debris first.

The backwash water from the filter must be filtered and

dechlorinated if going to storm sewers, otherwise it must be discharged to the sanitary sewer or onto your surrounding property if it can be properly absorbed into the ground.

Water containing chlorine or bromine should not be allowed to enter the storm sewer system. It is the responsibility of the homeowners to do their best to ensure there are no chemical residues or debris in the water being discharged. Test kits may be used to ensure chlorine and bromine concentrations are as close to zero as possible.

When emptying a pool at the end of the season, do not add chlorine for 7 days prior to draining.

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