



RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR DRAINING SWIMMING POOLS

(as adapted from KDHE – BUREAU OF WATER RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR DRAINING SWIMMING POOLS, July 27, 2011)

In the City of Salina, swimming pool water may not be discharged to a sanitary sewer. Further, section 24-17 of Salina Code prohibits releasing “any swimming pool, fountain or spa water containing a harmful level of chlorine (> 1 parts per million), muriatic acid or other chemical used in the operation of the pool or treatment or disinfection of the water or during cleaning of the facility at the point of discharge in to surface waters.”

The City of Salina does not require a permit for pool draining. However, the pool owner is responsible for compliance with state and local rules, is responsible for not creating nuisance conditions or a public health problem as a result of the discharge and may be subject to municipal citation for non-compliance.

Chlorine Pools

Options for disposal of swimming pool water are listed in order of **most desirable to least desirable**:

- Option 1:** Irrigate the water on the pool grounds or a nearby area at rates that do not allow the water to run off the irrigated site.
- Option 2.0:** Discontinue chlorination of the water for 3-4 days and then discharge the water across a field/large lawn, etc. and allow the water to slowly make its way to a ditch, etc.
- Option 2.1:** Discontinue chlorination of the water for 3-4 days. Then discharge it to the storm sewer. If the storm sewer discharges directly to or after a short distance (less than 1/4 mile) to a nearby stream, choose option 2.2 instead. Control the discharge rate according to the storm sewer capacity and to minimize the effect on downstream waters.
- Option 2.2:** Discontinue chlorination of the water for 3-4 days and then slowly, over a couple of days, pump/drain the water to a nearby ditch. The rate depends on how much water is in the pool, the ability of the ditch to carry water and how close a stream is to the discharge point. Please notify the City of Salina’s Department of Public Works when using public ditches for swimming pool water discharge over a period of several days.

Saltwater Pools

Discontinue saltwater generated chlorination of the water for 3-4 days and then discharge the water across a gravel driveway/field/large lawn, etc. which is owned or controlled by the pool owner. While the chlorine content of the water should be safely dissipated after 3-4 days, the remaining salt content in the water may damage or kill current plant life and make the ground unsuitable for future plant life.