

Spill Control

- Be prepared for spills
- Clean up spills using absorbent materials and then dispose of all waste properly.

Disposal of Chemical Containers

- Chemical containers that still have product in them cannot go into your regular trash. They are hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly.
- Empty Chemical containers must be rinsed prior to disposal. The rinse water should be used in your pool, spa, fountain just the same as the original chemical. It cannot go down the drain.

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal

City of Modesto
Solid Waste Management
(209) 577-5494

Stanislaus County
Household Hazardous Waste Facility
(209) 525-4123



To Report a Clogged Storm Drain, Spill or Illegal Dumping

City of Modesto
Public Works Department
(209) 577-6200

This is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Equipment Rentals

Food Service Industry

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earthmoving Activities

Home Repair & Remodeling

Horse Owners & Equine Industry

Kennels

Landscaping, Gardening, Pest Control

Mobile Washers and Cleaners

Nurseries

Painting

Roadwork and Paving

Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance



For more information about storm drain protection or additional pamphlets, call:

www.modestogov.com
City of Modesto
Public Works Department
Environmental Compliance Section
(209) 577-6377

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi and Fountain Maintenance

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

Homeowners

Landscapers

Swimming Pool / Spa service workers

Gardeners

Homebuilders

Contractors



Environmental Compliance Section
Public Works Department

Water Pollution Prevention It's Up to Us!



Storm drains are intended for rain water to drain rain water away from our streets and to prevent flooding.

Modesto has two drainage systems, the sewers and the storm drains.

Because the system contains no filters, it now serves the *unintended purpose* of carrying urban pollution straight to our rivers and eventually the ocean.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent pollution from urban runoff. Rain along with water from households (such as watering your landscaping), mixes with urban pollutants that include oil, paint, pet wastes, pesticides, litter and other automotive fluids to become polluted Urban runoff.

Urban runoff pollution flows to our rivers through the storm drain system – 77 miles of storm lines and over 10,000 rockwells – that take water and debris straight from Modesto streets to our rivers and waterways.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates our rivers, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

Remember: **ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN**



Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi and Fountain Maintenance Best Management Practices (BMP's)

Potential Pollutant Sources

- Chlorine
- Copper
 - Copper is a powerful herbicide and poses a serious threat to our river and waterways. If possible, do not use copper based algaecides.
- Algaecides
- Colored Dye
 - Additives that change water color, such as aqua blue dyes used in fountains, can be harmful to our public waterways. Dyes alter water temperature, filter out sunlight and prevent normal healthy algae growth in the rivers and oceans.
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Buffers
- Chemicals / Salts
- Diatomaceous Earth
- Cleaning Filters
- Backwashing
- Pool Draining
- Chemical Etching / Resurfacing
- Cleaners

Cleaning Filters

- All residential pool water discharged from a waste line must flow through a backwash separation tank or sediment trap, before it discharges into the sewer line. It is very important to filter sand and dirt particles from the water because they do not dissolve and can clog the sewer lines.
- Filters should be cleaned and rinsed over a vegetated area or all rinse water should be captured and filtered to remove any solids prior to being discharged into the sewer system.
- Dispose of all captured solids as trash.

Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi and Fountain Draining

- Per Modesto regulations, MMC 5-10.201(f), you may never drain your pool water into the street or storm drain system, even if the water is dechlorinated.
- Pool, Jacuzzi and Fountain water, if allowed into the storm drain system; can carry urban runoff with it. Urban runoff is one of the largest contributors to pollution in our storm drain system.
- Always drain your residential pool water into a sewer line. For convenience, use the sewer clean out connection in your yard, generally located near a hose bib, close to the house.
- You can also access the sewer system drain in your toilet, bathtub or sink inside your home. Be cautious that you do not flood your home if you use this option.
- If you are unable to locate the sewer clean out, you can drain your pool water into a vegetated area, but be advised that chemicals may be very harmful to your landscaping.



Material Storage and Handling

- Store chemicals in a clean, dry and covered area.
- If landscaping materials are left outside, cover with a tarp or plastic sheeting to protect from urban runoff.