

# Your Guide to Proper Pool Maintenance

## Chlorinated Water and Salt Water

- Whether you have a saltwater or chlorinated pool, they both contain chemicals that are needed to keep it clean and safe for swimming.
- These chemicals are deadly to fish and other organisms that live in our local creeks and lakes.
- Salt water alters the natural pH of water.

For more helpful tips, please visit [barrie.ca/renovations](http://barrie.ca/renovations) and click on Hot Tubs, Pools & Spas



## You Have A Responsibility

You and the hired pool service provider are LEGALLY responsible for the safe maintenance and operation of your pool. The City of Barrie sets out requirements for the proper operation, maintenance and seasonal closure of pools, hot tubs, and spas that will protect the area's water quality, and ultimately your drinking water.

Report a spill to provincial authorities if pool water has gone into a stream, river, lake, or storm sewer system without proper treatment.



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## Environmental Operations



## Did You Know ...

### Barrie Has Two Different Sewer Systems

#### Sanitary Sewer

This system collects sewage and wastewater from your home. This water is treated at our Wastewater Treatment Facility and released into Kempenfelt Bay.



#### Storm Sewer

This system collects rainwater, melted snow and surface water through storm grates that drain directly into nearby creeks and streams which then flow into Kempenfelt Bay or Little Lake. This water receives **NO** treatment.



## Where Should I Discharge the Water from my Pool?

### Chlorinated Water

#### STEPS

- 1 **SUPER CHLORINATE** to get rid of the bacteria, algae, and organic matter.
- 2 **DE-CHLORINATE** the water before discharging by placing a de-chlorination tablet in the water then letting it sit for two weeks or longer to allow the chlorine to dissipate.
- 3 **RUN THE PUMP** to circulate the water and assist in the dissipation of the chlorine. Sunlight will also help.
- 4 **FILTER BACKWASH** water and de-chlorinate before discharging.
- 5 **TEST YOUR POOL, HOT TUB, OR SPA WATER** ensuring chemical levels are as close to zero as possible before discharging.
- 6 **DISCHARGE YOUR POOL, SPA OR HOT TUB WATER ACROSS YOUR LAWN** leading to the storm sewer, so your lawn can absorb most of the water and reduce the flow.

By following these steps the level of chlorine should have been reduced sufficiently.

### Salt Water

**DISCHARGE SALT WATER** pools to the sanitary sewer system connection on your property (sink, toilet, etc.).

OR

**DRAIN ONTO YOUR LAWN** surrounding your home, if it can be properly absorbed into the ground without flowing onto your neighbour's property.

OR

**HAVE THE SALT WATER HAULED** by a Ministry of the Environment approved and licensed hauler if it cannot be discharged into the City's sanitary sewer system or solely onto your lawn.

## Did You Know ...

- Draining your chlorinated water directly into storm sewer can kill fish.
- Discharge your pool, spa or hot tub across your lawn, leading to the storm sewer, so your lawn can absorb most of the water. Never drain your pool, spa or hot tub on a rainy day because it will make it harder for your lawn to absorb the water.
- Do not add chemicals to your pool, spa or hot tub for two weeks before draining.

