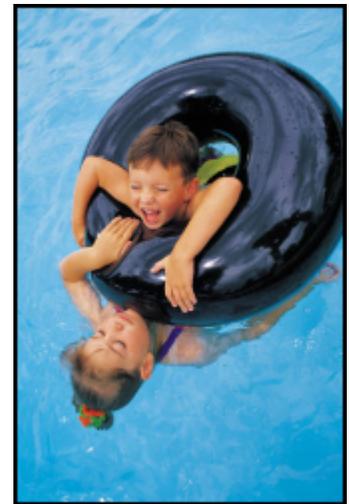# ROSEVILLE

## Public Works Department

# Residential Pool/Spa Drainage Information

Improper disposal or release of swimming pool water can harm local water bodies; damaging wildlife and vegetation.  To promote a healthy environment, the Public Works Department offers these guidelines on draining swimming pools.

1.  Do not add any chlorine the week prior to draining the pool. Always test the pool water before draining to ensure that pH levels are normal (6.5 — 7.8) and chlorine levels are not detectable.  Careful use of pool chemicals can save money and reduce disposal problems.
2.  Pump pool water over an open area, such as a lawn, before letting the water drain into a storm sewer.  If the water goes through the lawn, the acid and chlorine levels must be safe to prevent damaging the grass.  Look for natural drainage paths that will keep the water away from adjacent property and buildings.
3.  Never drain pool water directly into a body of water, such as a lake, stream or wetland.  If your pool contains a black film of algae, collect the algae and flush it down the toilet. Leaves and other yard waste can be composted.  Decaying organic matter will lower the oxygen content in the water and should not go into the storm sewer or any wetland area.
4.  If the pool is cleaned by acid or water pressure, make sure the pH levels in the water have adjusted to normal levels before draining the pool.  Filter out any paint chips before draining.
5.  Completely used pool filters can be thrown into your garbage.  Always follow the instructions on all chemical labels for disposal and usage.  Never mix two or more chemicals because the reaction could be harmful.  Extra or partially used filters and pool chemicals can be disposed of at:

Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Bay West, Inc.
5 Empire Drive
St Paul, MN
651-633-EASY (3279)

**If you no longer have a pool, please call us so we can update our information.**

What we do around our homes directly impacts the water quality of our ponds, lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands!