

4.2-r POOL AND HOT TUB MANAGEMENT

Alternative names: Swimming Pool, Plunge Bath, Whirlpool, and Spa Maintenance.

DESCRIPTION

Chemicals used to treat and disinfect water in swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs can harm the environment, especially if discharged water reaches receiving streams and groundwater. Chemicals used, including chlorine, have the potential to disturb and/or kill aquatic life. Proper pool and hot tub management is necessary to reduce and prevent chlorine and other chemicals from contaminating waters and harming aquatic life.

APPLICABILITY

This BMP is suitable for any property with a pool or hot tub, especially those within or adjacent to Stream Environment Zones (SEZs), backshore, and/or Source Water Protection Zones.

Advantages

- Protects the environment and surface and ground water from chemically treated water.

Disadvantages

- May require pre-planning to meet permitting requirements.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Do not plan for the discharge of chlorinated pool and hot tub water to Lake Tahoe, other lakes in the region, their tributaries, land and groundwater, or the Truckee River within the Lake Tahoe Region. Such discharge is prohibited.
- Ask retailers and manufacturers for information available to customers, such as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), which provide information regarding proper use of chemicals and safe disposal methods.
- Store pool and hot tub chemicals under cover where they will not come into contact with snowmelt or stormwater. Locate pools and hot tubs in areas that have access to sanitary sewers.

INSTALLATION

- Discharge treated water from pools and hot tubs to the municipal sanitary sewer system. Do not discharge to the storm drain. Most sewer districts in the Lake Tahoe Region require a permit for discharge of a large amount of water such as the complete draining of a swimming pool. Contact the local General Improvement District or Public Utility District for specific requirements.
- Sanitary sewer regulations generally prohibit the plumbing of pools and hot tubs directly into the sanitary sewer.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Use water testing kits to determine actual need before chemical application.
- Follow inspection protocols on Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for chemicals used.

BMP DESIGN APPROACH

- Pollutant Source Control
- Hydrologic Source Control
- Stormwater Treatment

SCALE OF APPLICATION

- All SFR and MFR < 1 acre
- MFR 1-5 Acre and CICU < 5 acres
- MFR and CICU > 5 acres and all WQIPs

TYPE OF APPLICATION

- Temporary
- Permanent

