



DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and NATURAL RESOURCES

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Best Management Practices Plan for Swimming Pool Discharges and Discharges of Water with Chlorine Addition

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SDDANR) has developed this best management plan in lieu of a general permit for discharges from swimming pools and waters with chlorine addition. Discharges of this nature have the potential to violate the South Dakota Surface Water Quality Standards (SDSWQS), and/or cause harm to the environment if not done properly. Chlorine, bromine, total suspended solids, and pH are pollutants of concerns from these discharges. These chemicals and pollutants can cause harm to plant and animal life. A swimming pool can take up to 10 days to dechlorinate naturally. After 10 days of not adding chlorine, the water may be discharged. If the following Best Management Practices are used, SDDANR will not require an individual Surface Water Discharge permit for discharges from a swimming pool, hot tub, fountain, or other waters that require chlorine addition. By following this Plan, these discharges can be directed to the sanitary sewer, storm sewer, or vegetative landscape (land application).

Sanitary Sewer

Permission from your local wastewater treatment facility must be obtained before beginning to discharge to the sanitary sewer. Some wastewater treatment facilities will not be able to take discharges of this nature. Additional local restrictions may apply.



Storm Sewer

Permission from your local municipality must be obtained before beginning to discharge to the storm sewer. A sample must be taken prior to discharge to ensure chlorine levels are measured as below detection. The discharge shall not be started until the chlorine concentration is below detection (0.05 mg/L). The discharge must not contain floating solids. The discharge shall not flood the storm sewer. Additional local restrictions may apply.

Land Application

Discharges of this nature may be applied to land if the following best management practices are used:

- The ground cannot be saturated.
- The water must be dechlorinated to below detection level.
- The water must be discharged in such a way to prevent runoff or erosion.
- The water must not flood neighboring properties.

