

City of Mansfield

Swimming Pool Discharge Compliance Guide

As of 2005, City ordinances prohibit the discharge of highly chlorinated swimming pool or swimming pool filter media (diatomaceous earth). This guide contains simple recommendations a property owner should be able to complete in order to be in compliance.

It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure violations of these requirements do not occur.

For filter backwash and highly chlorinated swimming pool discharges, compliance may be as simple as moving the discharge outlet away from the curb. If using a flexible blue hose, simply lay the end of the hose at a location on the property where the discharge is able to filter through vegetation before flowing into the curb. Depending on the amount of time water is being discharged, it may be necessary to relocate the hose to new areas throughout the discharge. Every property is different in terms of lawn thickness, slope, etc... that affect the ability to settle out the filter media or chlorine, but 10' is generally a good rule of thumb to start. Be sure the discharge does not create a problem for a neighbor.

If using a flexible blue hose, it is also possible to place the hose into a sanitary sewer cleanout. These cleanouts are generally located somewhere near the front of the house (sometimes hidden in a flower/shrub bed), and are made of white PVC plastic with one or two threaded covers (usually white PVC or brass). The hose will need to be placed far enough into the cleanout so as not to pop out when the pump is turned on.

For properties with a hard pipe connecting the pump discharge to the street through the curb, the use of a pop-up emitter, or 90° bend, placed further back on the property may be used. These may be installed by the property owner, a pool contractor, or a landscape contractor.

Another option would be to simply remove the filter from the pump prior to final backwash and disposing of the filter material in the garbage, or on the lawn.

All new swimming pool discharges are being required to have a permanent connection to the sanitary sewer service on the property.

Salt water swimming pool discharges should never go into the street or the City's storm drain system, and it is not recommended to discharge them onto a lawn.

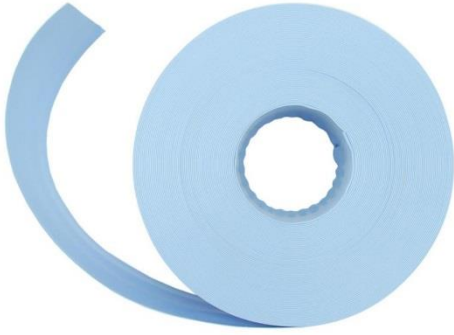
The exact means and methods of compliance are not dictated by the City. It is the responsibility of the property owner, even if a maintenance service provider is used, to ensure violations of the City's ordinances do not occur.

Filter media is made of very tiny particles that have the ability to suffocate fish. Chlorine is a highly reactive substance that can poison fish. And salt water should never be mixed with fresh water wildlife. All of these discharges have the potential to be harmful to the natural environment, to include causing a fish kill. In addition, discharges from swimming pools also have the potential to be a nuisance to other property owners. Only low-level chlorinated, properly filtered discharges from swimming pools are acceptable to be made into the street.

For additional information, please contact the City's David Macias at 817-276-4239.

Example blue backwash hose courtesy of

https://images.homedepot-static.com/productImages/fd61537f-2692-45be-9cf2-0e541ea8f041/svn/northlight-pool-hoses-32234355-64_1000.jpg



Example sewer cleanout courtesy of

http://www.fergusonandcompany.com/system/files/images/100_0650.preview.JPG



Pop up emitter example courtesy of

https://images.homedepot-static.com/productImages/7e0d23fc-bae9-4ad7-a735-883e2ea43554/svn/drain-grates-422g-64_1000.jpg