

TOWN
of

PARADISE VALLEY



Swimming Pool Drainage
Community Development Department
6401 E Lincoln Drive
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

(480) 348-3692

Swimming Pool Drainage

The Town of Paradise Valley has recently become aware of some misinformation regarding draining of pools that is of concern. Residents have informed the Town that certain pool companies are telling their customers that it is acceptable to empty their pool water into the sewer. This is incorrect and illegal. Town Code Section 15-2-12.A Prohibited Substances states,

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged, any new sources of inflow, including, but not limited to, storm water, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water, pool water, or polluted industrial process waters into any sanitary sewer.

Furthermore, the increased flow in the sewer lines impacts the Town as it may require the purchase of more "treatment capacity".

It is also illegal to empty pool water onto the Town streets. Town Code Section 8-1-10 Water-Flow Upon Streets Prohibited states,

It is unlawful to willfully or negligently permit or cause the escape or flow of water or other liquid upon a right-of-way in such quantity, so as to impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic, to create a hazardous condition for such traffic, or, to cause damage to public or private streets within the Town. To "Negligently permit" includes the failure or neglect to properly operate or maintain any water facility or device, including, but not limited to, swimming pools, spas, ponds, fountains, sprinklers, hoses, pipes, ditches, standpipes, berms, irrigation structures or equipment, valves or gates.

In addition, the Town is now under regulation from the Environmental Protection Agency, namely the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) that prohibits all discharges of pollutants that could enter washes. This includes pool water. It appears that residents may be able to empty their pool water onto their property if they can do this slowly, contain it completely on their private property, and make sure it does not enter any washes or drainageways. The residents can also empty their pools into water trucks and have the water taken off the property and properly disposed of.

Should you need clarification on the aforementioned regulations, or have any questions or comments, please feel free to call the Building and Zoning Division (480) 348-3692. We look forward to hearing from you.