

Lower Allen Township's

Guide to MS4

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

August 2023 Edition



It's the End of Summer But I'm Thinking About...

Did you hear that? The sound of school buses practicing their bus routes are just around the corner. It's soon time to close the pool for the summer.

Whether you plan to lower the water level or empty the entire pool of its water, care should be taken to dispose of the pool water in a safe manner. Discharging pool water into any waters of Pennsylvania is considered a violation of the Clean Streams Law. Pool waters and other waters that contain chlorine or any other chemicals can be detrimental to aquatic life if discharged to the storm sewers. Discharged pool water has been known to cause fish kills and create unsafe aquatic conditions for other living organisms. Lower Allen Township's stormwater ordinance does not allow discharge of pool water to the MS4, whether the water is dechlorinated or not.

What should you do with your pool water?

In some municipalities pool water can be disposed of through the sanitary sewer system. Before discharging pool water into the sanitary sewer system, verify with your sewer authority for authorization to discharge pool water. The increase amount of water and the addition of chlorine into the sanitary sewer system can overwhelm sewer infrastructure and kill good bacteria used to treat wastewater.



If lowering the level of the water in a pool, the water may be used for irrigation purposes. This dechlorinated pool water would need to stay on the property and not run off or enter any portion of the storm sewer. A slow draining of the pool onto a lawn is permissible according to the Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, contact the Department of Environmental Protection.