WHERE DOES STORM WATER GO?

What happens to water from rain, lawn watering, or car washing? This water, called stormwater or urban runoff, flows into the City’s storm drainage system through over 2500 curbside catch basins – the openings located along street gutters. The water moves through the storm drain piping below our streets to our rivers, creeks, wetlands, sloughs, the delta and the bay. This water eventually enters the Pacific Ocean.

Initially, much of this water fills the Davis storm water detention and wildlife ponds which are landscaped to support an array of wildlife species. Other water flows through drainage ditches towards the northern and eastern edges of the city.

A portion of the stormwater that is collected in the city is conveyed to the Davis Wetlands where it is used to support the wetlands system and all its wild inhabitants. Tours of the Davis Wetlands are offered the first Saturday of the month. For more information contact the Yolo Basin Foundation: (530) 757-4828.

PROTECT OUR WETLANDS

The Putah Creek bioregion and Yolo Bypass Wetlands near Davis comprise a delicately balanced ecosystem, home to numerous species of aquatic plants and animals crucial to the food web. These organisms can be harmed by discharges of wastes and chemical pollutants.

To remind everyone about the importance of preventing pollution of our stormwater, be it from food service activities, or other sources, the City of Davis has installed these storm drain inlet markers near each drain:

These markers are easy to install. So if you, your group, or organization would like to participate in this pollution awareness program, please contact City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686

Help us to protect your water resources for current and future generations.

If you see anyone dumping questionable materials, please call City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686.

If it is an emergency, call 911.

PLEASE KEEP OUR WATERSHED CLEAN!!

CITY OF DAVIS
POOL, SPA, AND FOUNTAIN PROGRAM

Pollution Prevention starts with you
PROTECT OUR WETLANDS
Please Try to Keep Pool, Spa, and Fountain Water out of Storm Drains, Streets, and Creeks

The Putah Creek bioregion and Yolo Bypass Wetlands near Davis comprise a delicately balanced ecosystem, home to numerous species of aquatic plants and animals crucial to the food web. These organisms can be harmed by discharges of pool, spa or fountain waters if they contain significant amounts of pollutants such as chlorine.

Another pollutant that may threaten the bioregion’s aquatic life is copper. It is used as an algaecide in pools, spas, and fountains. Copper pipes are also used in plumbing.

Did you know . . . ?

Wastewater treatment plants remove much of the copper and other metals from sewage. Water entering the storm drain system does not receive the same level of treatment. Regardless of the system, we should try to reduce or eliminate the use of copper in pool, spas, and fountains as much as possible.

Maintaining Pools, Spas, and Fountains
- For best results, consistently clean and maintain your filtration and circulation systems and pool.
- Manage pH and water hardness to minimize corrosion of copper pipes.
- Resolve persistent algae problems without copper algaecides.
- For more information about non-copper algaecide prevention, consult your pool chemical supplier.

Filter cleaning
- Never clean a filter in the street or near a storm drain! Instead rinse cartridge filters onto a dirt area, and spade filter residue into soil.
- If there is not a suitable dirt area, call City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686 for instructions on discharging filter backwash or rinse water to the sanitary sewer.
- Backwash diatomaceous earth filters onto dirt. Dispose used diatomaceous earth in the garbage.

Draining pools or spas
- Do not discharge chlorinated pool, spa, or fountain water to the street or storm drain. This water eventually flows the Sacramento River.
- It is almost always possible to discharge chlorinated water to an on-site sanitary sewer cleanout.
- When draining a pool to the sanitary sewer, prevent backflow by maintaining an “air gap” between your discharge line and the sewer line (i.e., do not seal the connection between hose and sewer line.)
- De-chlorinated water can be discharged to the storm drain.

Did you know . . . ?

Water treatment devices shall be under a separate permit

Chlorine levels higher than 0.01 ppm (parts per million) can be harmful to aquatic organisms and exceed levels allowed by the State Department of Fish and Game. The typical chlorine level maintained in a pool is 2-4 ppm!

The installation of an automatic fill device for a pool requires the addition of a backflow device in order to protect the potable water supply of the City of Davis water system. Contact the Building Division at (530)757-5610 for any questions concerning this.

When it’s time to drain a pool, spa, or fountain, please call City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686 for further guidance on flow rate restrictions, backflow prevention, and handling special cleaning waste (such as acid wash). Discharge flows should be kept to the low levels typically possible through a garden hose. Higher flow can cause overflows and flooding.

For more pollution prevention solutions contact: City of Davis Public Works Department at: (530) 757-5686, or visit our web site at: http://cityofdavis.org/pw/stormwater/