

East Lyme Conservation Commission Swimming Pool Permit Conditions

Potential Environmental Impacts:

Chlorine and other chemicals (bromine) used in maintaining pools and spas often include acidic or alkaline cleaning compounds that can have a negative impact on marine and aquatic life if mismanaged.

Even at extremely low levels, chlorine can be toxic to life in lakes, ponds, and coastal basins. Swimming pool wastewater can also contain solids and harmful bacteria.

Permit Conditions:

Private Residential Pools Discharge

The permittee may discharge swimming pool wastewater from a private residential pool provided that the following conditions are met:

- 1) The pH of the discharge shall be between **6.5 and 8.0** standard units.
- 2) For swimming pool draining and cleaning wastewater, total residual bromine or chlorine shall be **less than 1.0 mg/liter** as determined by a test kit commonly used in the pool industry.
- 3) For swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater, total residual bromine or chlorine shall be **less than 3.0 mg/liter** as determined by a test kit commonly used in the pool industry
- 4) The permittee shall *not* discharge swimming pool pressure wash, acid cleaning, draining water or backwash wastewater directly to any storm drain, lake, pond, stream, river or wetland. All wastewater shall have the required reduced chemical amounts and shall be drained onto vegetation or lawn to allow for ground seepage prior to entering any wetland or waterbody.
- 5) There shall be no foaming or discoloration of the receiving waters.

Definitions:

Backwash Wastewater: wastewater generated by backwashing a pool filtration system

Draining Water: wastewater generated by draining a swimming pool

Pressure Wash Wastewater: wastewater generated by pressure washing a swimming pool

Acid Cleaning Wastewater: wastewater generated by the acid cleaning of a swimming pool