

## **SWIMMING POOL AND SPA WATER NOT FOR STORM DRAINS!**

Swimming pool and spa water should not be discharged to storm drains. Because storm drains in the Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) service area flow directly to local creeks and south San Francisco Bay with no treatment, toxic pool treatment chemicals can have a detrimental effect on the environment. Because of this potential, most local ordinances now prohibit the discharge of swimming pool water to storm drains.

If you wish to drain your pool or spa, two options for safe disposal are:

1. Recycle/reuse water by draining gradually onto a landscaped area.
2. Discharge to the sanitary sewer by running a hose to a sewer pipe cleanout junction.

Copper-based algaecides should not be used regardless of the discharge point. Treatment technology at the wastewater treatment plant cannot remove all of the metals that reach the plant through the sewer system. Metals contamination—by copper in particular—is a serious concern for the health of south San Francisco Bay.