

# VENTURA COUNTY



PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
JEFF PRATT, P.E.  
Agency Director

# WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT

June 25, 2010

**Noma Camacho**  
District Director

**Gerhardt Hubner**  
Water & Environmental  
Resources

**Peter Sheydayi**  
Design/Construction

**Sergio Vargas**  
Planning/Regulatory

**Karl Novak, P.E.**  
Operations/Maintenance

Facility Owner/Manager

**Subject: NOTIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES FROM SWIMMING POOL/SPA INTO STORM DRAIN SYSTEM UNDER THE VENTURA COUNTY NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SEWER STORM SYSTEM PERMIT**

Dear Facility Owner/ Manager:

Draining of the pool/spa might result in illicit discharge under the current Ventura County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Sewer Storm System (MS4) Permit. Please be advised that under the NPDES MS4 Permit discharges from the pools/spa into the storm drain system are only allowed if Permit conditions are satisfied. The Ventura County NPDES MS4 Permit is available under Municipal Permits of the Storm Water section at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/>.

For your convenience, below is a summary of conditions required for discharges from the swimming pools to the storm drain system.

### Findings:

[...] swimming pool water has been found to be a source of pollutants such as salts (chloride). Salts increase the salinity of otherwise freshwater systems and disrupt physiological processes. The Regional Water Board has waterbodies listed on the CWA § 303(d) list for impairment due to salts and has adopted Basin Plan amendments to include Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for salts. This Order (NPDES MS4 Permit) includes provisions to control the discharges from these activities in order to directly or indirectly reduce or eliminate the discharge of salts to fresh water systems where salts may impair water quality and beneficial uses.

### Prohibitions - Non-Storm Water Discharges:

Non-storm discharges are prohibited into the MS4 and receiving waters, except:

- Flows incidental to urban activities such as dechlorinated/ debrominated swimming pool discharges providing the Permit conditions are met.

**Dechlorinated/ debrominated swimming pool discharge** means any swimming pool discharge with a residual chlorine or bromine level of 0.1 mg/L or less; and does not contain any detergents, wastes, algacides, or cyanuric acid in excess of 50 ppm, or any other chemicals

including salts from pools commonly referred to as "salt water pools". The term does not include swimming pool filter backwash or swimming pool water containing bacteria.

**Conditions under which allowed:**

1. Where the discharge is not accepted by the sanitary sewer operator. Swimming pool discharges are to be dechlorinated, pH adjusted if necessary, aerated to remove chlorine if necessary, and volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent resuspension of sediments.
2. Cleaning waste water and filter back wash shall not be discharged to storm drain system.
3. No discharges are allowed containing salts in excess of Water Quality Standards.
4. Chlorine residual in discharge shall not exceed 0.1 mg/L.

**Required conditions for discharge to occur:**

- Pool water may be dechlorinated using time, aeration, and/ or sodium thiosulfate.