

Guernsey Water Advice Sheet

Disposal of Water & Wastewater from Domestic Swimming Pools/Spas



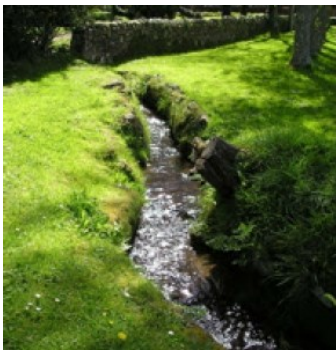
In Guernsey our groundwater, streams and reservoirs are at risk of pollution from relatively small quantities of chemicals and effluent discharges.

To prevent such pollution, Guernsey Water does not permit the disposal of swimming pool water containing chlorine, bromide or salt (sodium chloride) into surface water drains, land drains, streams, drouits or drainage ditches. Pool or spa water (including filter backwash water) containing sodium chloride from salt disinfection systems or brominated compounds from bromine disinfection systems **MUST** be disposed of via the foul sewer or cesspit.

Chlorine disinfection systems

Draining of freshwater pools, irrespective of volume, can only be undertaken once chlorine levels have decayed to zero. Emptying can then take place at a slow rate and in a controlled manner. You must inform Guernsey Water if you intend to do this (tel: 229500 or email customer.service@water.gg).

Pollution



It is very easy to contaminate water courses leading to the death of aquatic wildlife, damage to the environment and the closure of stream transfer stations. Chlorine is an aggressive disinfectant and will react with organic matter that occurs naturally in surface waters to form compounds, many of which are harmful. Most pollution incidents are avoidable. A frequently occurring factor is a lack of awareness of the purposes of drains and gullies.

Ensuring you know the correct disposal route of drains and following these guidelines will allow you to enjoy your pool safe in the knowledge that you are protecting the Island's aquatic environment.

Chemical storage

Make sure pool chemicals are stored out of direct sunlight in a cool dry environment, in labelled containers and locked away from children. Never mix chemicals. **Please note that it is essential to protect the water resources in the Island and to safeguard the local environment and the Island's water supplies.** Guernsey Water's policy is to investigate all cases where the negligent use of chemicals or disposal of effluents has led to pollution or a risk of pollution occurring.

Plumbing

All pools and spas using the public water supply must fully comply with 'The Water Byelaws (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2003'. Should you require any further information, please contact Guernsey Water's compliance plumbing team on tel: 229500. Additionally, in order to comply with the Ordinance, any person installing a swimming pool, spa or jacuzzi on their property must pay for their water by measured volume (i.e. using a water meter). **If you do not have a water meter, then please contact us.**

For further advice please visit www.water.gg or contact Guernsey Water on tel: 229500 or email customer.service@water.gg

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