



Connecticut Department of  
Energy & Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Materials Management & Compliance Assurance  
Water Permitting & Enforcement Division

# General Permit for the Discharge of ***SWIMMING POOL*** Wastewater

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# General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater

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# General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater

## Section 1. Authority

This general permit is issued under the authority of section 22a-430b of the General Statutes.

## Section 2. Definitions

The definitions of terms used in this general permit shall be the same as the definitions contained in section 22a-423 of the General Statutes and section 22a-430-3(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

“*Authorized activity*” means any activity authorized under this general permit.

“*Best management practice*” (BMP) means a practice, procedure, structure or facility designed to prevent or minimize environmental damage, or to maintain or enhance environmental quality. BMPs include without limitation treatment requirements, written operating procedures, training, documentation, practices to control spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or providing for drainage from raw material storage.

“*Commissioner*” means the commissioner as defined by section 22a-2(b) of the General Statutes.

“*Day*” means the calendar day; if any date specified in the general permit falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, such deadline shall be the next business day thereafter.

“*Department*” means the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

“*Ground surface discharge*” means a discharge directed to the surface of the ground, which is totally absorbed by the soil, and does not reach a surface water body.

“*Individual permit*” means a permit issued to a named permittee under section 22a-430 of the General Statutes.

“*Maximum daily flow*” means the greatest volume of wastewater to be discharged over an operating day, not to exceed the design flow rate.

“*Municipality*” means a municipality as defined by section 22a-423 of the General Statutes.

“*Permittee*” means any person who or municipality which is authorized by this general permit.

“*POTW*” means a publicly owned treatment works.

“*POTW authority*” means the chairperson, or duly authorized representative, of the Water Pollution Control Authority which owns or operates a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

*"Person"* means person as defined by section 22a-423 of the General Statutes.

*"Private residential pool"* means an artificial basin constructed of concrete, steel, fiberglass or other impervious material intended for recreational bathing, swimming, diving, or therapeutic purposes which is located either indoors or outdoors and is provided with a controlled water supply and which is used or intended to be used solely at a single, two or three family residence, and which is not used for commercial or business purposes.

*"Public pool"* means an artificial basin constructed of concrete, steel, fiberglass or other impervious material intended for recreational bathing, swimming, diving, or therapeutic purposes which is located either indoors or outdoors and is provided with a controlled water supply and which is not used or intended to be used solely by a single, two or three family residence for residential purposes. Public pool includes a pool located at a single, two or three family residence which is used or intended to be used for commercial or business purposes. In addition, public pool may include, but not be limited to:

- *"Diving pools"* used for diving or the training and practice of diving techniques.
- *"Spas", "Whirlpools", or "Hot Tubs"* used for recreational bathing which are used in conjunction with high velocity air systems, high velocity water recirculation systems, hot water, cold water, mineral baths or any combination of these items, except those intended for use by a single occupant whose water, after each use, is discharged to a sanitary sewer, e.g. hydrotherapy tubs often used in physical therapy offices.
- *"Special purpose pools"* used exclusively for a particular purpose, including but not limited to water flumes, recreational water parks, pools for scuba diving instruction, therapeutic pools and pools used in the aquatic programs for handicapped persons.
- *"Swimming pools"* used or intended to be used for recreational bathing, swimming and water recreation activities.
- *"Wading pools"* used or intended to be used for wading and recreational bathing by small children.

*"Registrant"* means a person who or municipality which files a registration in accordance with Section 4 of this general permit.

*"Registration"* means a completed registration form and registration fee filed with the commissioner pursuant to Section 4 of this general permit.

*"Site"* means geographically contiguous land or water on which an authorized activity takes place or on which an activity for which authorization is sought under this general permit is proposed to take place. Non-contiguous land or water owned by the same person and connected by a right-of-way which such person controls and to which the public does not have access shall be deemed the same site.

*"SP-1 and SP-2"* are occupational licenses for a 'Limited Spa and Pool Contractor' and 'Limited Spa and Pool Journeyperson, respectively, required by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection for spa and pool contractors undertaking "swimming pool maintenance and repair work" pursuant to Section 20-417aa of the Connecticut

General Statutes.

“*Surface water discharge*” means any discharge which is discharged directly to a surface water body or stormwater collection system, including, but not limited to, direct pipe discharges and ground surface run-off discharges which are not totally absorbed by the soil.

“*Swimming pool maintenance wastewater*” means wastewater generated by the acid cleaning, pressure washing, resurfacing, grouting, painting or any other maintenance of swimming pools or their associated equipment such as pool filters, pool covers, etc.

“*Swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater*” means wastewater generated by backwashing a swimming pool filtration system.

“*Swimming pool draining wastewater*” means wastewater generated by the draining of water from swimming pools.

“*Swimming pool wastewater*” means wastewater comprised of “Swimming pool maintenance wastewater”, “Swimming pool draining wastewater” and/or “Swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater”.

“*Watercourse*” means watercourse as defined in section 22a-38 of the General Statutes.

“*Wetland*” means both tidal wetland as that term is defined in section 22a-29(2) of the General Statutes and inland wetlands as that term is defined in section 22a-38(15) of the General Statutes.

### **Section 3. Authorization Under This General Permit**

#### **(a) *Eligible Activities***

Provided the requirements of Section 3(b) of this general permit are satisfied, this general permit authorizes any discharge comprised solely of swimming pool wastewater as defined in this general permit.

Any discharge of water, substance or material into the waters of the state other than the one specified in this section is not authorized by this general permit, and any person who or municipality which initiates, creates, originates or maintains such a discharge must apply for and obtain authorization under section 22a-430 of the General Statutes prior to the occurrence of such discharge.

#### **(b) *Requirements for Authorization***

This general permit authorizes the activity listed in Section 3(a) of this general permit provided:

##### **(1) Registration**

- (A)** For any discharge of swimming pool wastewater from a public pool, a completed public pool registration form with respect to such activity has been filed with the commissioner.

- (B) Any person in the business of cleaning, draining or maintaining multiple public pools and/or private residential pools has filed a complete contractor registration form including the SP-1 (Limited Spa and Pool Contractor) license number (issued by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection) of the directly and regularly employed contractor of record responsible for all swimming pool maintenance and repair work with the commissioner prior to initiating, creating, originating, or maintaining any discharge of swimming pool wastewater from any public pool or private residential pool.
- (C) For any discharge of swimming pool wastewater from a public pool to the groundwater via a subsurface disposal system, a copy of the completed public pool registration form with respect to such activity has been submitted to the town health official or district health official.

(2) Coastal Area Management

Such activity is consistent with all applicable goals and policies in section 22a-92 of the General Statutes, and will not cause adverse impacts to coastal resources as defined in section 22a-93 of the General Statutes.

(3) Endangered and Threatened Species

Such activity does not threaten the continued existence of any species listed pursuant to section 26-306 of the General Statutes and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat designated as essential to such species.

(4) Conservation and Preservation Restrictions

Such activities, if located on or may affect property subject to a conservation or preservation restriction, pursuant to section 47-42d of the Connecticut General Statutes, proof of written notice to the holder of such restriction of the proposed activity's registration pursuant to this general permit or a letter from the holder of such restriction verifying that the proposed activity is in compliance with the terms of the restriction shall have been provided to the commissioner.

- (5) No effluent limitation standard or guideline adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Clean Water Act is applicable to the discharge.

(c) ***Geographic Area***

This permit applies throughout the State of Connecticut.

(d) ***Effective Date and Expiration Date of this General Permit***

This general permit is effective on the date it is issued by the commissioner and expires five (5) years from such date of issuance.

(e) ***Effective Date of Authorization***

- (1) For an activity required to be registered, such an activity is authorized by this general permit on the date the commissioner receives a completed registration with respect to such activity which meets the requirements of Section 4 of this general permit.
- (2) For an activity *not* required to be registered, such an activity is authorized by this general permit on the effective date of this general permit listed in Section 3(d) of this general permit or on the date the discharge is initiated, whichever is later. Such an activity must be in accordance with all applicable requirements of this general permit.

***(f) Transition to and from an Individual Permit***

No person shall operate or conduct an activity authorized by both an individual permit and this general permit. The requirements for transitioning authorization are as follows:

- (1) *Transition from an Individual Permit to Authorization under this General Permit.* If an activity meets the requirements of authorization of this general permit and such operation or activity is presently authorized by an individual permit, the permittee may surrender the right to operate or conduct any activity under such individual permit. The permittee shall acknowledge its intention to surrender its permit in writing to the commissioner. However, any such surrender shall not take effect, and such permittee's individual permit shall continue to apply, until the effective date of authorization of this general permit.
- (2) *Transition from Authorization under this General Permit to an Individual Permit.* If an activity is authorized under this general permit and the commissioner subsequently issues an individual permit for the same activity, then on the date any such individual permit is issued by the commissioner, the authorization issued under this general permit shall automatically expire.

## **Section 4. Registration Requirements**

***(a) Who Must File a Registration***

- (1) Any person who or municipality which, in accordance with this general permit, wishes to initiate, create, originate or maintain a discharge of swimming pool wastewater generated by a **public pool** shall file with the commissioner:
  - (A) a completed public pool registration form which meets the requirements of Section 4 of this general permit (Form DEP-WD-REG-005A) and
  - (B) the applicable fee.

This registration form and fee shall be submitted either (1) on or before 60 days following the date of reissuance of this general permit or (2) for any new public pool, prior to the initiation of the discharge.

If the public pool activity generating the discharge for which a registration is filed pursuant to this general permit is owned by one person or municipality but is leased

or is the legal responsibility of another person or municipality (the operator), the operator shall submit the registration required by this general permit.

- (2) Any person in the business of cleaning, draining or maintaining multiple public pools and/or private residential pools shall file with the commissioner:
  - (A) a completed contractor registration form which meets the requirements of Section 4 of this general permit (Form DEP-WD-REG-005B) and
  - (B) the applicable fee.

This registration form and fee shall be submitted either (1) on or before 60 days following the date of reissuance of this permit or (2) for any new business, prior to the initiation of the first discharge.

- (3) Any person who initiates, creates, originates, or maintains a swimming pool wastewater discharge from a **private residential pool** as defined in Section 2 of this general permit is not required to file a registration form or fee, but must comply with all other applicable conditions of this general permit.

**(b) Scope of Registration**

(1) Public Pool Registration

Any person or municipality that generates swimming pool wastewater from multiple sites may submit a single public pool registration form in accordance with Section 4 of this general permit to cover all sites and associated discharges.

(2) Contractor Registration

Any person who is in the business of cleaning, draining, or maintaining multiple pools may submit a single contractor registration form in accordance with Section 4 of this general permit to cover all pools managed by such person.

**(c) Contents of Registration**

(1) Fees

(A) Public Pools

- (i) The registration fee of \$500.00 established by section 22a-6f of the General Statutes shall be submitted with a completed public pool registration form provided that the registration fee for a municipality shall be \$250.00. A registration shall not be deemed complete and no activity shall be authorized by this general permit unless the registration fee has been paid in full.
- (ii) The registration fee shall be paid by check or money order payable to the **Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**.
- (iii) The registration fee is nonrefundable.

(B) Pool Contractor

- (i) The registration fee of \$500.00 established by section 22a-6f of the General Statutes shall be submitted with a completed contractor registration form. A registration shall not be deemed complete and no activity shall be authorized by this general permit unless the registration fee has been paid in full.
- (ii) The registration fee shall be paid by check or money order payable to the **Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**.
- (iii) The registration fee is nonrefundable

(2) Public Pool Registration Form

For any discharge of swimming pool wastewater from a public pool, a registration shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the commissioner and shall include the following:

Note: Any person in the business of cleaning, draining or maintaining multiple pools shall submit a contractor registration form described in Section 4(c)(3) of this general permit, in lieu of a public pool registration form.

- (A) Legal name, address, and telephone number of the registrant that initiates, creates, originates or maintains the discharge. If any such person is an entity transacting business in Connecticut, and is required to register with the Connecticut Secretary of the State, include the exact name as registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State.
- (B) Legal name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the property on which the each swimming pool wastewater discharge is to take place.
- (C) Legal name, address, and telephone number of the registrant's attorney or other representative, if applicable.
- (D) Legal name, address, and telephone number of any consultant(s) or engineer(s) retained by the registrant to prepare the registration or to design or construct the subject activity.
- (E) Location address of the site of the discharge(s) for which the registration is submitted.
- (F) The capacity of the swimming pool in gallons.
- (G) The maximum daily flow of swimming pool wastewater generated by pool draining, maintenance, or filtration backwash, in gallons per day, to be discharged at the site.
- (H) The date the discharge began or will begin.
- (I) The source of each swimming pool wastewater discharge (e.g. maintenance, filtration backwash, or pool draining) and the method(s) used to discharge the swimming pool wastewater (e.g. bottom drains, deck drains, pump, etc) and identify where each swimming pool wastewater

discharge is directed (e.g., a dedicated subsurface disposal system, the ground, or surface water).

- (i) If discharge is to ground surface, provide the distance to the nearest water body or stormwater collection system. If a water body is closer than a stormwater collection system, provide the name of that nearest water body.
  - (ii) If discharge is to a stormwater collection system, provide the name of the water body the stormwater collection system empties into.
  - (iii) If discharge is to a surface water body, the name of the receiving water body and a description of how the discharge is conveyed to the receiving waterbody, e.g. through a 4" diameter pipe, over the ground, etc.
- (J) For batch, intermittent, or seasonal discharges, the duration and frequency of the discharge.
- (K) A detailed description of any wastewater treatment being used.
- (L) For discharge(s) to surface water or ground water, an 8 1/2" by 11" copy of the applicable section of a United States Geological Survey topographic map with a scale of 1:24,000 showing the exact location of the discharge.
- (M) The signature of the registrant and of the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing the registration, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

"I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that this general permit registration is on complete and accurate forms as prescribed by the commissioner without alteration of their text. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute. I certify that I have read the *General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater* issued by the commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; that the discharge which is the subject of this registration is eligible for authorization under such general permit; that if such discharge commenced prior to the issuance of such general permit, all applicable requirements of such general permit are being met; and that a functioning and effective system is in place to assure that all such requirements are met so long as the discharge which is the subject of this registration continues."

(3) Contractor Registration Form

For any person in the business of cleaning, draining or maintaining multiple public pools and/or private residential pools, a registration shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the commissioner and shall include the following:

- (A) Name, address, and telephone number of the person in the business of cleaning, draining or maintaining multiple public pools and/or private residential pools. If any such person is an entity transacting business in Connecticut, and is required to register with the Connecticut Secretary of the State, include the exact name as registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State.
- (B) Name and SP-1 (Limited Spa and Pool Contractor) license number (issued by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection) of the directly and regularly employed contractor of record responsible for all swimming pool maintenance and repair work (as defined by section 20-417aa of the General Statutes) undertaken by the registering contractor identified in Section 4(c)(3)(A) of this general permit.
- (C) The signature of the registrant and of the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing the registration, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that this general permit registration is on complete and accurate forms as prescribed by the commissioner without alteration of the text. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute.

I also certify under penalty of law that I have read and understand all conditions of the *General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater*, and that whenever I initiate a swimming pool wastewater discharge I will abide by all terms and conditions of this general permit at all sites. I also certify that I have trained each of my employees in the requirements of the *General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater*.”

**(d) Where to File a Registration and Other Related Documents**

- (1) A registration shall be filed with the commissioner at the following address:

Central Permit Processing Unit  
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

- (2) For the discharge of swimming pool wastewater from a public pool to the groundwater via a subsurface disposal system, a copy of a completed public pool registration form shall also be sent to each town or district health official where the discharge will occur.

**(e) *Additional Information***

The commissioner may require a registrant to submit additional information, which the commissioner deems necessary to evaluate the consistency of the discharge of swimming pool wastewater with the requirements for authorization under this general permit.

**(f) *Action by Commissioner***

- (1) The commissioner may reject without prejudice a registration if it is determined that it does not satisfy the requirements of Section 4(c) of this general permit or more than thirty days (30) have elapsed since the commissioner requested that the registrant submit additional information or the required fee and the registrant has not submitted such information or fee. Any registration refiled after such a rejection shall be accompanied by the fee specified in Section 4(c)(1) of this general permit.
- (2) The commissioner may disapprove a registration if it is found that the subject activity is inconsistent with the requirements for authorization under Section 3 of this general permit, or for any other reason provided by law.
- (3) Disapproval of a registration under this subsection shall constitute notice to the registrant that the subject activity may not lawfully be conducted or maintained without the issuance of an individual permit.
- (4) Rejection or disapproval of a registration shall be in writing.

## **Section 5. Conditions of This General Permit**

**(a) *Operating Conditions***

- (1) All owners and operators of public pools and those required to file a contractor registration form shall implement the following swimming pool wastewater best management practices:
  - (A) Prepare a comprehensive education and training program for all swimming pool personnel involved in pool maintenance. The program shall cover pool opening and closing procedures, maintenance procedures including but not limited to, filter backwashing, pool wall and bottom acid cleaning and/or pressure washing, periodic draining to maintain chemical balance or for sanitation purposes, chlorine or bromine testing, emergency procedures, and regulatory requirements of the General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater. The Job Trainee education program approved by the CT Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational Trades entitled "Practical Knowledge of Safety, Chemical

Treatment and Cleaning Procedures for Pool/Spa Technicians” provides the necessary information to meet this requirement.

- (B) Make copies available of written procedures at each public or municipal swimming pool facility and in all contractor vehicles.
- (C) Perform annual training for all personnel involved in pool maintenance using the comprehensive education and training program developed in Section 5(a)(1)(A) of this general permit. Seasonal employees must be trained prior to the seasonal opening of public or municipal pools. Records of training shall include the training syllabus, the date and time of training, instructor’s name, title, and signature, and the trainees’ name(s) and signature(s). Training records shall be maintained for a period of five years.

- (2) For any public swimming pool constructed after July 1, 1998 located at a site served by sanitary sewer, the plumbing shall be constructed such that all discharges of swimming pool wastewater are directed to sanitary sewer. If a sanitary sewer is not available at the site, a subsurface disposal system dedicated to swimming pool wastewater is preferred. Discharge of swimming pool wastewater to ground surface should only occur when a sanitary sewer or a subsurface disposal system are not available.
- (3) Release Prevention Plan for Public Pools with Drains Directed to Surface Water or the Ground Surface

A Release Prevention Plan shall be developed and implemented for all public pools with drains directed to surface water or the ground surface to prevent the unauthorized discharge of swimming pool wastewater. The release prevention plan shall be in writing and in a legible format with a copy readily accessible and in close proximity to the location of the drain valves with additional copies retained by the operator of the pool and/or pool contractor responsible for maintaining the pool. At a minimum, the release prevention plan shall include the following:

- A) a clear description of the step-by-step procedures and any special precautions that shall be followed for opening or closing valves controlling the drain to prevent the unauthorized discharge of swimming pool wastewater;
- B) a requirement that, prior to opening, filling or adding chemicals to a public pool with drains directed to surface water or the ground surface, the person responsible for undertaking such activity shall ensure that all valves on drains directed to surface water or the ground surface are closed to prevent an unauthorized discharge of swimming pool wastewater;
- C) a requirement that all valves and equipment associated with drains directed to surface water or to the ground surface in a public pool shall be configured such that the main valve is locked when closed and tagged with the name of the last person who locked the valve. Such tag shall also

indicate the location where the release prevention plan is stored and available for review.

- D) a recordkeeping form that contains, for each successive opening or closing of the valve controlling the drain, all recordkeeping requirements delineated in Section 5(b)(2) of this general permit. A sample form is provided as Appendix C.

(4) Sanitary sewer/POTW Discharge

All discharges of swimming pool wastewater from a public pool and/or private residential pool to a POTW through a sanitary sewer are now regulated by the ***General Permit for Miscellaneous Discharges of Sewer Compatible Wastewater***, issued on October 31, 2013, without the need for a registration or fee.

(5) Dedicated Subsurface Disposal System Discharge

Swimming pool wastewater may be discharged from a public pool and/or private residential pool to a dedicated subsurface leaching system (dry wells, galleries, etc. designed to receive pool water and not sewage) provided the following conditions are met:

- (A) The pH of the discharge shall be between 6.5 and 8.5 standard units.
- (B) The location of the dedicated swimming pool wastewater leaching system shall meet required setback distances from wells and onsite sewage disposal systems per the Connecticut Public Health Code.

(6) Ground Surface Discharge

(A) The permittee shall *not* discharge swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater from a public pool to the ground surface unless authorized by the local Director of Health.

(B) All other swimming pool wastewater may be discharged to the ground surface provided the following conditions are met:

- i) The pH of the discharge shall be between 6.5 and 8.5 standard units.
- ii) Total residual chlorine or bromine in discharges of swimming pool draining wastewater shall be less than 1.0 mg/l as determined by a test kit commonly used in the pool industry. Test kit must be accurate to at least 0.1 mg/l.
- iii) Total residual chlorine or bromine in discharges of swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater shall be less than 3.0 mg/l as determined by a test kit commonly used in the pool industry.
- iv) Swimming pool maintenance wastewater discharges resulting from the daily 0.5% chlorine solution (or an equivalent fungicide) deck

washing as required by RCSA §19-13-B33b(b)(8) (CT DPH Public Health Code) are exempt from an effluent limitation for total residual chlorine. Such solution shall infiltrate the ground completely and shall not be allowed to discharge to storm drains or surface waters.

- v) The discharge shall infiltrate the ground completely and not run off into a surface water body, stormwater collection system, wetland or onto adjacent property.
  - vi) The discharge shall be located at least 25 feet from any water supply well, subsurface sewage disposal system or surface water body.
- (C) The permittee shall ensure that the procedures described in the Release Prevention Plan prepared pursuant to Section 5(a)(3) of this general permit are implemented.

(7) Surface Water Discharge

- (A) i) The permittee shall **not** discharge the following swimming pool wastewater to any surface water or wetland (or to a stormdrain that leads to any surface water or wetland):
- swimming pool maintenance wastewater,
  - swimming pool filtration backwash wastewater.
- (B) Swimming pool draining wastewater may be discharged from a public pool and/or private residential pool to a surface water provided the following conditions are met:
- i) Sanitary sewer, subsurface disposal system, or the ground surface is not available as a discharge point.
  - ii) The pH of the discharge shall be between 6.5 and 8.0 standard units.
  - iii) Total residual chlorine or bromine shall be non-detectable as determined by a test kit commonly used in the pool industry. Test kit must be accurate to at least 0.1 mg/l.
  - iv) The discharge shall not cause foaming or discoloration of the receiving waters.
  - v) No algae or sanitation control treatment chemicals, other than those that are bromine or chlorine based, are used. Chemicals to adjust the pH may also be used.
  - vi) The discharge shall not cause the scouring of stream, river or estuarine bottoms or wetlands.
- (C) Permittees who discharge swimming pool draining wastewater to a surface water (because a sanitary sewer or ground discharge location is not

available) from a pool that uses a **chlorine generator** to produce free chlorine (and thus has a higher sodium chloride content):

a) shall not discharge this draining wastewater to a wetland or pond (or to a stormdrain that leads to a wetland or pond)

b) shall only discharge this draining wastewater to a stream or river (or to a stormdrain that leads to a stream or river) that has a 10:1 dilution ratio of fresh water to draining wastewater.

- (D) The drainage of a public pool and/or private residential pool within a public water supply watershed may be allowed provided the discharge is performed in such a way as to minimize soil erosion and maximize absorption of the discharge by the soil. Such discharge shall terminate at least 100 feet from the edge of an established watercourse, unless such termination is impractical. In areas where the 100-foot separation is not possible, the discharge shall be controlled so that the flow energy is dissipated, thereby lessening the impact on nearby watercourses.
- (E) The permittee shall ensure that the procedures described in the Release Prevention Plan prepared pursuant to Section 5(a)(3) of this general permit are implemented.

**(b) Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements**

(1) Recordkeeping Requirements for Pool Draining

Any person who drains a public pool or a contractor who drains a public pool and/or private residential pool shall, for each draining, record the following information:

- (A) the date and start and stop time of the pool draining;
- (B) the name and location of the pool;
- (C) the location of the discharge;
- (D) the pH of the pool water to be drained;
- (E) the bromine or chlorine residual of the pool water to be discharged; and
- (F) printed name and signature of the person responsible for the draining.

See Appendix B of this general permit for a sample pool draining recordkeeping form.

(2) Recordkeeping Requirements for Public Pools with Drains Directed to Surface Water or Ground Surface

Any person who opens or closes a valve controlling drains directed to surface water or the ground surface on a public pool shall, for each occurrence, record the following information:

- (A) the date and time of the opening or closing of the valve controlling the drain;

- (B) the name and location address of the public pool;
- (C) the reason for opening or closing the valve;
- (D) any maintenance that must be performed on the valve;
- (E) printed name and signature of the person responsible for opening or closing the valve (which must match the name printed on the tag attached to the closed and locked valve).

See Appendix C of this general permit for a sample public pool drain valve opening or closing recordkeeping form.

(3) Retention of Records

- (A) Records required by Section 5(b)(1) of this general permit (Pool Draining) shall be retained on-site, or at the permittee's principal place of business in Connecticut, as required by section 22a-430-3(j)(9)(B) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- (B) Records required by Section 5(b)(2) of this general permit (Public Pools with Drains Directed to Surface Water or Ground Surface) shall be retained in the Release Prevention Plan required by Section 5(a)(3) of this general permit. The Release Prevention Plan shall be stored in close proximity to the drain valve. The location of the Release Prevention Plan must also be noted on the tag attached to the locked valve.
- (C) All records shall be made available to the commissioner immediately upon request.

(c) ***Recording and Reporting Violations***

The permittee shall immediately notify the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection at 860-424-3025 Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or 860-424-3338 nights, weekends, or holidays, upon becoming aware of any environmental problem associated with the discharge of swimming pool wastewater, including but not limited to, any fish kill resulting from the draining of a pool to a surface water body.

(d) ***Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Incorporated into this General Permit***

The permittee shall comply with the following Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies which are hereby incorporated into this general permit, as if fully set forth herein:

(1) Section 22a-430-3:

- Subsection (b) General - subparagraph (1)(D) and subdivisions (2), (3), (4) and (5)
- Subsection (c) Inspection and Entry
- Subsection (d) Effect of a Permit-subdivisions (1) and (4)
- Subsection (e) Duty to Comply
- Subsection (f) Proper Operation and Maintenance
- Subsection (g) Sludge Disposal

Subsection (h) Duty to Mitigate  
Subsection (I) Facility Modifications, Notification-subdivisions (1) and (4)  
Subsection (j) Monitoring, Records and Reporting Requirements-subdivisions  
(1), (6), (7), (8), (9) and (11) [except subparagraphs (9)(A)(2), and (9)(C)]  
Subsection (k) Bypass  
Subsection (m) Effluent Limitations Violations  
Subsection (n) Enforcement  
Subsection (o) Resource Conservation  
Subsection (p) Spill Prevention and Control  
Subsection (q) Instrumentation, Alarms, Flow Recorders  
Subsection (r) Equalization  
(2) Section 22a-430-4  
Subsection (t) Prohibitions  
Subsection (p) Revocation, Denial, Modification  
Appendices

## **Section 6. General Conditions**

### **(a) *Reliance on Registration***

When evaluating a registration, the commissioner relies on information provided by the registrant. If such information proves to be false or incomplete, the authorization issued under this general permit may be suspended or revoked in accordance with law, and the commissioner may take any other legal action provided by law.

### **(b) *Duty to Correct and Report Violations***

Upon learning of a violation of a condition of this general permit, a permittee shall immediately take all reasonable action to determine the cause of such violation, correct such violation and mitigate its results, prevent further such violation, and report in writing such violation and such corrective action to the commissioner within five (5) days of the permittee's learning of such violation. Such information shall be certified in accordance with Section 6(d) of this general permit.

### **(c) *Duty to Provide Information***

If the commissioner requests any information pertinent to the authorized activity or to determine compliance with this general permit, the permittee shall provide such information within thirty (30) days of such request. Such information shall be certified in accordance with Section 6(d) of this general permit.

### **(d) *Certification of Documents***

Any document, including but not limited to any notice, which is submitted to the commissioner under this general permit shall be signed by, as applicable, the registrant or the permittee in accordance with section 22a-430-3(b)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and by the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing such document, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute.”

**(e) *Date of Filing***

For purposes of this general permit, the date of filing with the commissioner of any document is the date such document is received by the commissioner.

**(f) *False Statements***

Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this general permit may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute.

**(g) *Correction of Inaccuracies***

Within fifteen (15) days after the date a permittee becomes aware of a change in any of the information submitted pursuant to this general permit, or becomes aware that any such information is inaccurate or misleading or that any relevant information has been omitted, such permittee shall correct the inaccurate or misleading information or supply the omitted information in writing to the commissioner. Such information shall be certified in accordance with Section 6(d) of this general permit.

**(h) *Transfer of Authorization***

Any authorization under this general permit shall be non-transferable.

**(i) *Other Applicable Law***

Nothing in this general permit shall relieve the permittee of the obligation to comply with any other applicable federal, state and local law, including but not limited to the obligation to obtain any other authorizations required by such law.

**(j) *Other Rights***

This general permit is subject to and does not derogate any present or future rights or powers of the State of Connecticut and conveys no rights in real or personal property nor any exclusive privileges, and is subject to all public and private rights and to any federal, state, and local laws pertinent to the property or activity affected by such general permit. In conducting any activity authorized hereunder, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, or other natural resources of this state. The issuance of this general permit shall not create any presumption that this general permit should or will be renewed.

## Section 7. Commissioner's Powers

### (a) *Abatement of Violations*

The commissioner may take any action provided by law to abate a violation of this general permit, including the commencement of proceedings to collect penalties for such violation. The commissioner may, by summary proceedings or otherwise and for any reason provided by law, including violation of this general permit, revoke a permittee's authorization hereunder in accordance with sections 22a-3a-2 through 22a-3a-6, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Nothing herein shall be construed to affect any remedy available to the commissioner by law.

### (b) *General Permit Revocation, Suspension, or Modification*

The commissioner may, for any reason provided by law, by summary proceedings or otherwise, revoke or suspend this general permit or modify to establish any appropriate conditions, schedules of compliance, or other provisions which may be necessary to protect human health or the environment.

### (c) *Filing of an Individual Permit Application*

If the commissioner notifies a permittee in writing that such permittee must obtain an individual permit to continue lawfully conducting the activity authorized by this general permit, the permittee may continue conducting such activity only if the permittee files an application for an individual permit within sixty (60) days of receiving the commissioner's notice. While such application is pending before the commissioner, the permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit. Nothing herein shall affect the commissioner's power to revoke a permittee's authorization under this general permit at any time.

Issued Date: July 31, 2014

MACKY MCLEARY  
Deputy Commissioner

This is a true and accurate copy of the general permit executed on **July 31, 2014** by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

# Appendix A: Allowed Swimming Pool Wastewater Releases

Before you hire a person to clean, drain, or maintain your pool, ask to see a copy of their registration with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Release To:	Draining	Maintenance* (Acid clean, pressure wash, etc.)	Filtration Backwash	Requirements	pH Range
POTW (sanitary sewer covered under Miscellaneous GP)	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public pools draining &gt;5,000 gallons, the local POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works, also known as a sewage treatment plant) must approve the discharge.</li> <li>Total residual bromine or chlorine shall be &lt;5.0 mg/l</li> <li>Total flow for all discharges from one site must not exceed 25gpm.</li> </ul>	5.0 to 12.0
Dedicated Subsurface Pool Water Leaching System	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming pool wastewater may discharge to a leaching system (dry wells, galleries, etc. which do not receive sewage.)</li> <li>Location of dedicated leaching system shall meet setback distances from wells and septic systems per the Connecticut Public Health Code.</li> <li>Note: Prior to constructing a dedicated pool water leaching system the local Health Department should be contacted as a local permit or approval may be required</li> </ul>	6.5 to 8.5
Ground Surface	Yes	Yes	Public Pool NO <sup>1</sup> Private Pool YES <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>1</sup>Filtration backwash from a public pool cannot be discharged to the ground unless authorized by the local Director of Health.</li> <li><sup>2</sup>Filtration backwash – total residual chlorine or bromine shall be &lt;3.0 mg/l.</li> <li>Draining wastewater – total residual chlorine or bromine shall be &lt;1.0 mg/l.</li> <li>Discharge should seep directly into the ground &amp; shall not be allowed to run off into any surface water body, stormwater collection system or onto any adjacent property.</li> <li>Discharge shall be 25 feet away from any water supply well, subsurface sewage disposal system or surface water body.</li> <li>Caution: Some algicide and unneutralized acids will kill lawn grass.</li> </ul>	6.5 to 8.5
Surface Water (Storm Drains, Ponds, Lakes, Streams, Rivers, & Wetlands)	Yes <sup>3</sup>	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>3</sup>Only drain a pool to surface water if other release locations are not possible</li> <li>Draining wastewater - total residual chlorine or bromine shall be &lt;0.1 mg/l. Draining wastewater from pool using chlorine generator (a) <b>cannot</b> discharge to a wetland or pond (or to a stormdrain that leads to a wetland or pond) b) shall only discharge this draining wastewater to a stream or river (or to a stormdrain that leads to a stream or river) that has a 10:1 dilution ratio of fresh water to draining wastewater.</li> <li>Discharge shall not cause foaming or discoloration of the receiving waters.</li> <li>No algae or sanitation control treatment chemicals, other than those that are chlorine &amp; bromine based shall be used. pH adjustment chemicals may be used.</li> <li>Bottom drains on pools constructed after the issuance date of this permit shall not be directed to any surface water, wetland, or stormwater collection system.</li> </ul>	6.5 to 8.0

This is only a summary of the requirements and does not relieve any person from any control specified in the *General Permit for the Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater*. Pool Maintenance contractors and public pool owners/managers are required to register with the Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Water Permitting & Enforcement Division, 860-424-3025. \*See definition of “swimming pool maintenance wastewater” in Section 2 of this general permit. For reference, in water chemistry 1 mg/l = 1 ppm.



