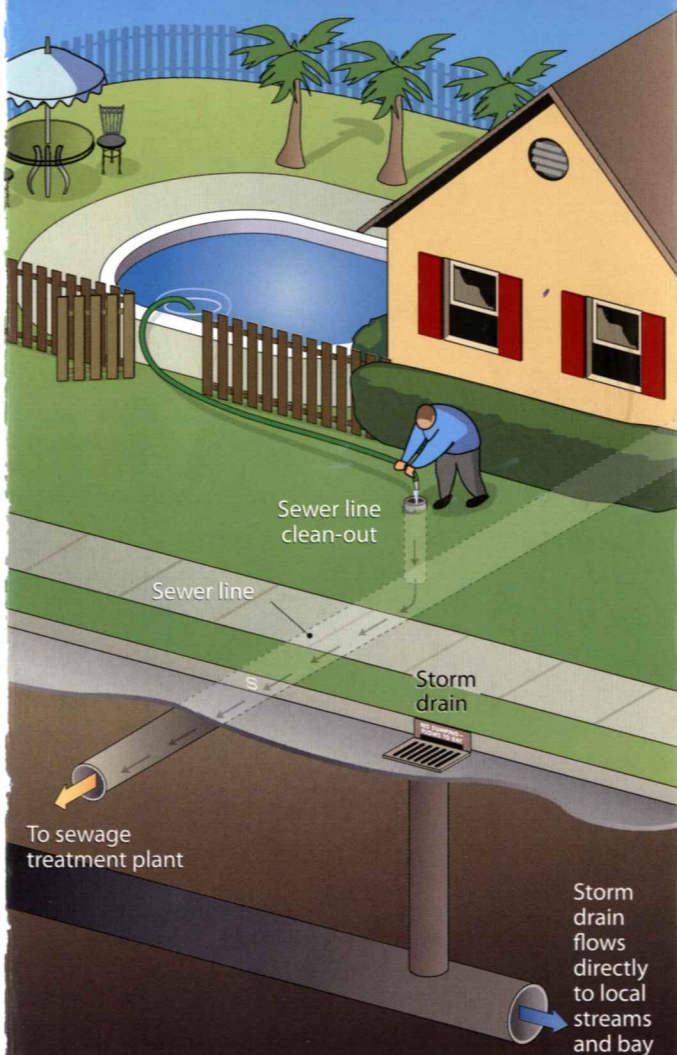


DRAINING POOLS & SPAS

Keep pool, spa and fountain water out of storm drains, creeks and the Bay.



Storm drains flow directly into our creeks and the Bay.

Did you know...?

- Draining pools, spas and fountains to storm drains can pollute creeks, the Delta and the Bay with copper, chlorine, sediments and other contaminants. Storm drains flow directly into our creeks, Delta and the Bay without treatment.
- Pools, spas and fountains should only be discharged to the sanitary sewer and only after obtaining permission from your local wastewater treatment authority.
- Copper is a pollutant that threatens aquatic life in our creeks, Delta and the Bay. It is used as an algaecide in pools, spas and fountains and copper pipes commonly used in pool plumbing.
- Wastewater treatment plants remove some, but not all, copper from sewage. It's essential to reduce or eliminate the use of copper in pools, spas and fountains so that disposal of pool water to the sanitary system is possible.



Delta Diablo Sanitation District
2500 PITTSBURG-ANTIOCH HIGHWAY
ANTIOCH, CA 94509-1373

Keep your pool, spa, and fountain water out of storm drains. Discharge water to a sanitary sewer clean-out with approval from your Wastewater Treatment Authority at Delta Diablo Sanitation District (925) 756-1900.

A properly maintained pool, spa and fountain will reduce the need for draining.

Maintaining

- Prevent algae problems and reduce the need for draining by: cleaning regularly, maintaining proper chlorine levels and maintaining water filtration and circulation.
- Manage pH and water hardness to minimize copper pipe corrosion that can stain your pool and potentially end up in our creeks, Delta and the Bay.
- Resolve persistent algae problems without copper algaecides. Use chlorine or other copper-free alternatives. Ask your pool maintenance service or pool chemical supplier for help. Or search for environmentally-friendly algaecides on the internet.

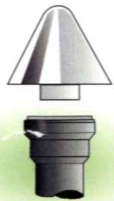
Filter Cleaning

- Never clean a filter in the street, gutter, or in or near a storm drain.
- Rinse cartridge filters with water onto a dirt area and spade filter residue into the soil.
- Backwash sand and diatomaceous earth filters onto a dirt area. Dispose of spent filter materials in the trash. Keep backwash discharges out of the street and storm drain.
- If you don't have a suitable dirt area, contact your local wastewater treatment authority listed in this brochure for instructions on discharging to the sanitary sewer.
- Contact your local household hazardous waste facility regarding proper disposal of pool chemicals. <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/cd/recycle/options/v5951.htm>

Draining

- Contact local wastewater treatment authority to properly dispose.
- Don't drain into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- Discharge water to a sanitary sewer cleanout.
- If you are on a septic system or have no sanitary sewer clean-out, contact your wastewater treatment authority listed in this brochure for guidance.

What does a sanitary sewer clean-out look like?



Look on your property for a small circular cap on a pipe, with a raised square or mushroom-shaped cone on it, sticking out of your house or out of the ground. These caps often cover clean-outs.



OR...

Look on your property for a concrete or metal cover marked "SEWER," "C.O." or "S." Clean-outs are often located under them.



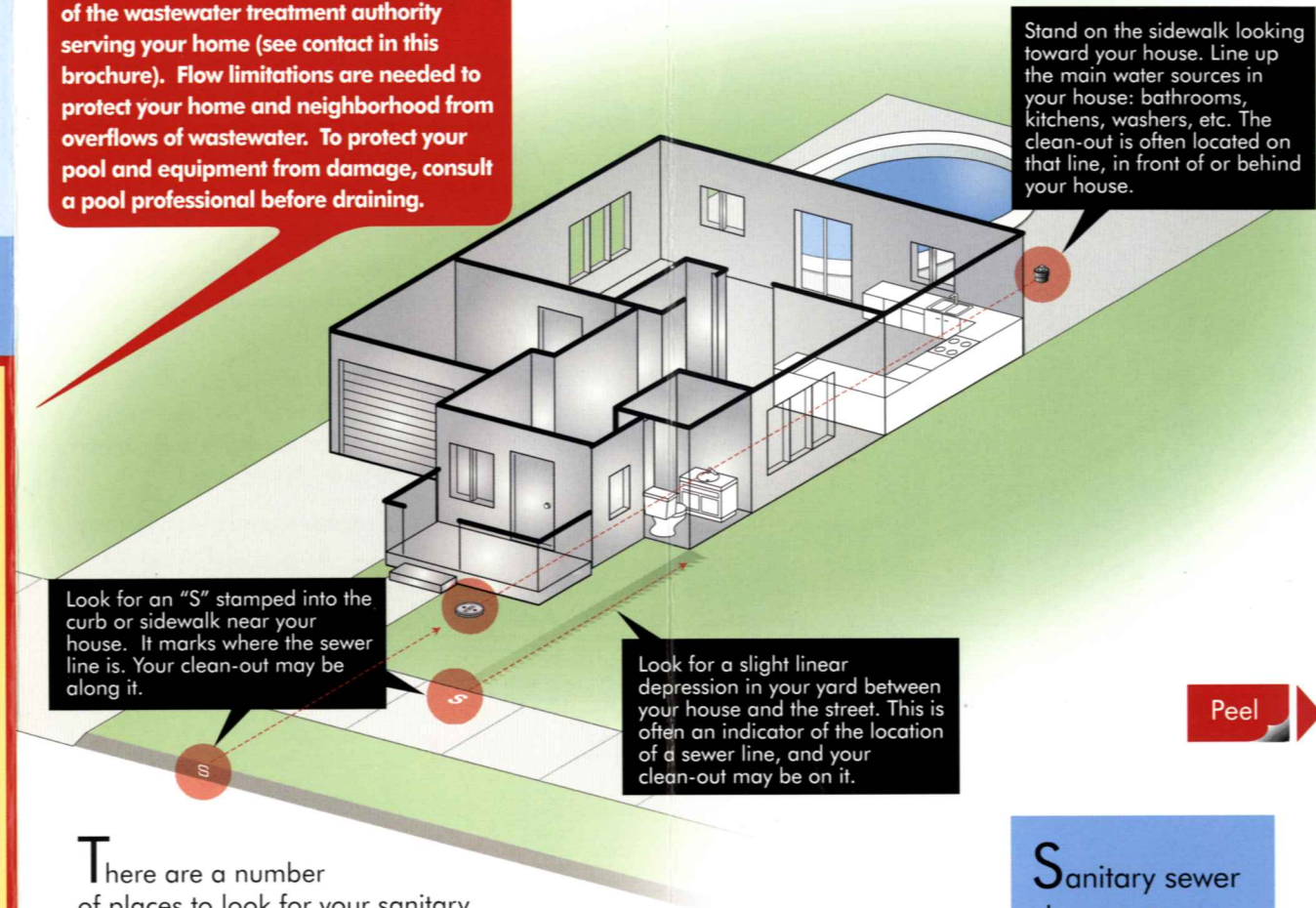
In either case, remove the cap and place the hose in the pipe to drain. To prevent backflow, don't let the end of the hose touch the bottom of the sewer pipe while draining.



Tips for finding your clean-out

Not all cities use the same method to mark their sewer systems. If you have trouble locating your clean-out, contact your local wastewater treatment authority. See "Contacts" list at right.

PLEASE NOTE: Use of a clean-out to discharge pool water needs approval of the wastewater treatment authority serving your home (see contact in this brochure). Flow limitations are needed to protect your home and neighborhood from overflows of wastewater. To protect your pool and equipment from damage, consult a pool professional before draining.



Look for an "S" stamped into the curb or sidewalk near your house. It marks where the sewer line is. Your clean-out may be along it.

Look for a slight linear depression in your yard between your house and the street. This is often an indicator of the location of a sewer line, and your clean-out may be on it.

Stand on the sidewalk looking toward your house. Line up the main water sources in your house: bathrooms, kitchens, washers, etc. The clean-out is often located on that line, in front of or behind your house.

Peel

There are a number of places to look for your sanitary sewer clean-out. Start by checking to see if there's an "S" stamped into the concrete of your curb or sidewalk. This marks the location of the sewer line, and your clean-out may be aligned with this marking.

Check on outside walls of the kitchen or baths, or somewhere on your property that is aligned with the drains of your kitchen or baths.

Finally, check to see if there is a slight depression in the ground leading out to the street. It may mark the location of the sewer line, and the clean-out may be along that line.

Sanitary sewer clean-outs are most often found along the sewer line, which is usually aligned with the sewer lines for the house.