



# Mandatory Restrictions

**Based on the recent land movement activity, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes has declared a local state of emergency and accordingly is mandating that property owners turn off sprinkler/irrigation watering systems for the foreseeable future to minimize additional water being absorbed into the ground in the vicinity. Additionally, for those properties with swimming pools, if you experience more water loss than occurs due to evaporation, you must refrain from refilling the pools at this time, and consider emptying your pool to prevent water entering the ground. See the next page for the information on pool draining. Note that your pool must comply with all fencing requirements when it is empty as well.**

**The health and safety of the public and the protection of property, infrastructure, and the environment are our top priorities. We are committed to keeping the community informed. You can find answers to frequently asked questions and more information on the City's webpage and receive updates by subscribing to the Land Movement listserv at [www.rpvca/notify](http://www.rpvca/notify).**

**Have questions? Contact us at [landmovement@rpvca.gov](mailto:landmovement@rpvca.gov).**

## What's the right way to drain my swimming pool?

To safely drain your swimming pool, you must direct the water into the sewage system. Pool water should never be directly emptied into storm drains, streets, or yards.

By draining to the sanitary sewer system, the drained water would be sent through a treatment plant.

### Why can't I empty pool water into the yard or street?

The concern for the cause of the landslide is ground water. Draining water into the yard may add to the ground water and worsen the situation. Additionally, pool water may be contaminated by bacteria, chlorine and other chemicals that can harm humans, wildlife, and vegetation.

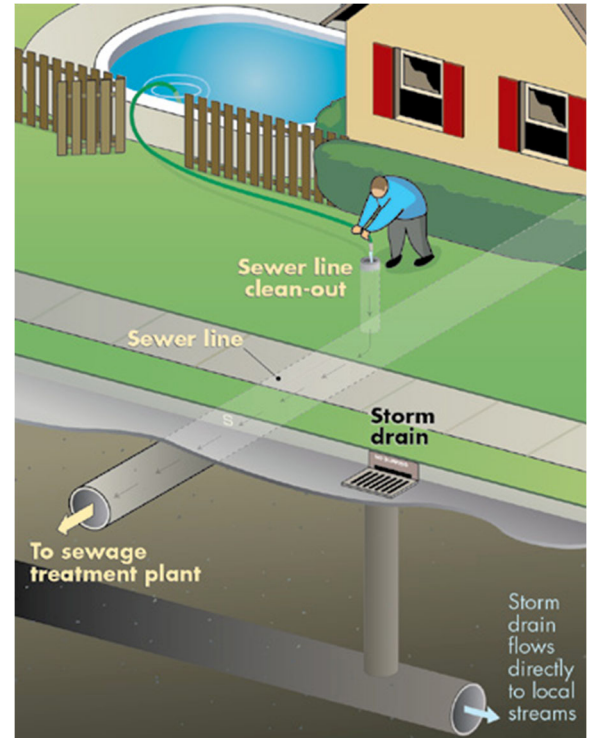
### How do I access the sanitary sewer to drain my pool?

There are 2 ways to reach the sewer lines: 1. Pools should have a main drain at the deepest point of the pool. Pool equipment can be used to drain the lines to the sewer line, please reach out to a Pool Contractor or other Pool Professional.

2. A hose can be used to drain to a Sanitary Sewer Cleanout. Sanitary sewer cleanouts provide access to sewage lines. To find your sanitary sewer cleanout look for the end of a pipe sticking out of the ground near your house or along the sewer line.

Modern cleanouts normally are capped with a small lid. Sewer vents have a circular grate on top.

To access the sanitary sewer, hold the raised square on the lid of the cleanout and unscrew the cap. Place a hose between your swimming pool and the cleanout. To prevent backflow, do not touch the hose to the bottom of the sewer pipe while draining.



### Tools and Materials

It is recommended to contact a Pool Contractor for the draining of a pool as to not damage any of the equipment. Some tools used could be a fully submersible pump, enough garden hose to reach from pool to drainage point, large pliers for accessing the cleanout.

### How to Drain an In-ground Pool

1. Turn off or disable the pool pump, lights, auto-leveler, and any automatic timers. Many of these pieces of equipment are liquid-cooled, which means that if left on they will overheat as the water level drops.
2. Attach enough garden hose to get from the pool to the drain point (sewer cleanout line, the road, downhill, or wherever else you're legally allowed to discharge water).
3. Attach the hose to the submersible pump and lower it into the deepest section of the pool.
4. Plug the pump into the pool's GFCI outlet (do not use extension cords). You should hear the pump running.
5. Check the hose to make sure the water's draining properly.
6. Check on the pool periodically throughout the day.