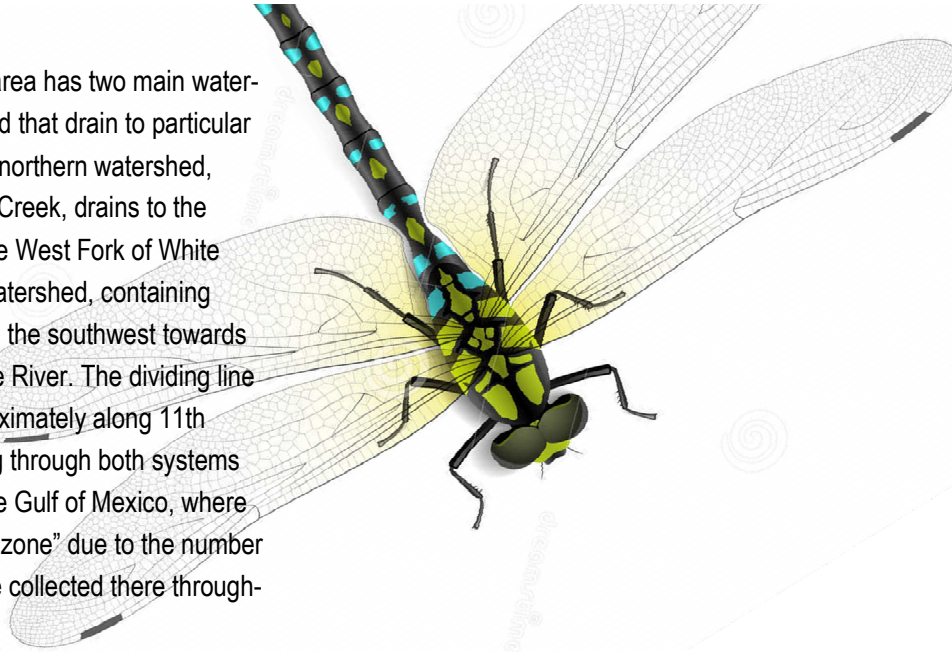


Drainage route

The Bloomington area has two main watersheds, or areas of land that drain to particular bodies of water. The northern watershed, containing Cascades Creek, drains to the northwest, towards the West Fork of White River; the southern watershed, containing Clear Creek, drains to the southwest towards the East Fork of White River. The dividing line runs east-west, approximately along 11th Street. Water flowing through both systems eventually reaches the Gulf of Mexico, where there is a large “dead zone” due to the number of pollutants that have collected there throughout the years.

You can help maintain good water quality here, there, and along the way by keeping pollutants out of our streams.

Remember: *“Only rain down the storm drain.”*



For questions on draining your water feature, more information on keeping our stormwater clean, and volunteer opportunities, please contact...

City of Bloomington Utilities Department

Email: stormwater@bloomington.in.gov

Phone: (812) 349-3617

Web: www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities



Monroe County Stormwater Services

Email: dwilkinson@co.monroe.in.us

Phone: (812) 349-2959

Web: www.co.monroe.in.us



Draining
your **pool,**
hottub, or **spa?**
Follow these simple
guidelines...

Please follow these guidelines when draining your water feature...

Did you know?

Draining swimming pools and spas can pollute our waterways, including streams and lakes. The water may contain chemicals — chlorine, bromine, salt and more — that are harmful to our water, wildlife, and ourselves.

All types of chemicals used in pool and spa maintenance must be neutralized before being released into the environment.

The best steps to make sure our waterways remain clean is to...

- Let pool water stand untreated for *at least seven (7) days* to allow chlorine or bromine to dissipate.
- Test the pH of the pool water to ensure it is close to neutral, near pH 7 (best would be between 6.5 and 8.5) before draining. Adjust the pH if necessary.
- Remove excess sediment, leaves, and other debris from the water.
- Drain pool water over a well-vegetated area on the owner's property to slow it down and aerate it. Pool water should not be drained directly into a storm drain or a stream. As a courtesy, avoid draining pool water across neighboring properties.
- Drain water at a slow rate so it does not erode stream banks downstream of the pool.

Note: This is not only a thoughtful thing to do, **it is the law** - see BMC 10.20 "Illicit Stormwater Connection and Discharge" as well as State Statute

327 IAC 15-13-14. Discharging chlorinated (or other chemically saturated) pool and spa water to a storm drain without following water quality recommendations is consider an illicit discharge and is regulated; it must be proven that the water meets these requirements before discharging.

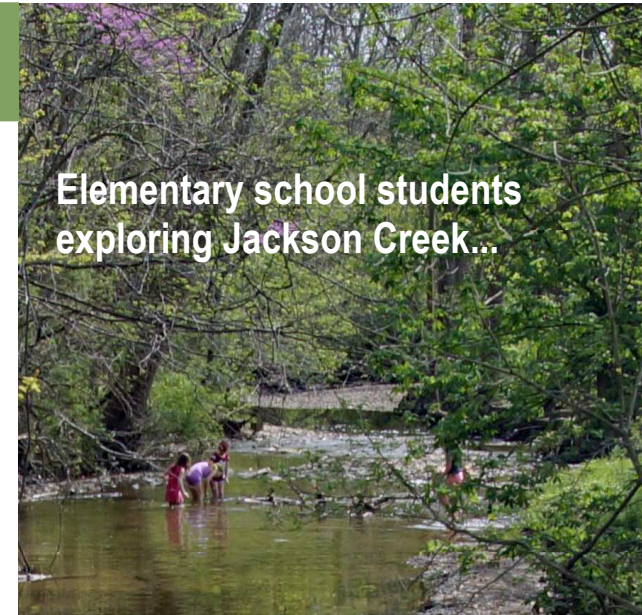
The City of Bloomington and Monroe County are required to enforce this practice through a mandate.

We (as well as the plants and animals) appreciate your cooperation.

Other, related considerations

- Shut off the chlorine or bromine system or stop adding these chemicals several days before draining pool water.
- Do not drain into a septic system.
- Please be mindful of your neighbors; discharging mass quantities of water can be a nuisance and cause erosion as well as other drainage issues.
- You can bring unwanted pool chemicals to the Hazardous Materials Facility at the South Walnut Recycling Center located at 3400 S. Walnut St. or contact the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District, (812) 349-2020.
- For more information, contact City of Bloomington Utilities Department (within city limits) or Monroe County Stormwater Services Department (outside city limits). See reverse side for contact info.

Elementary school students exploring Jackson Creek...



What else can I do to help maintain healthy stormwater?

- Store pool chemicals safely, where they will not be subjected to rain events.
- Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly or not at all.
- Do not dump yard or other waste in streams or roadways.
- Inspect and repair your septic system regularly.
- Wash cars on a grassy area with phosphorus-free detergents or use a car wash (they drain to the sanitary sewer system).
- Sweep sidewalks and driveways and dispose of sweepings in the trash.
- Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the trash.
- Fix any leaky vehicles.
- Volunteer to mark storm drains, adopt a stream, and more.