

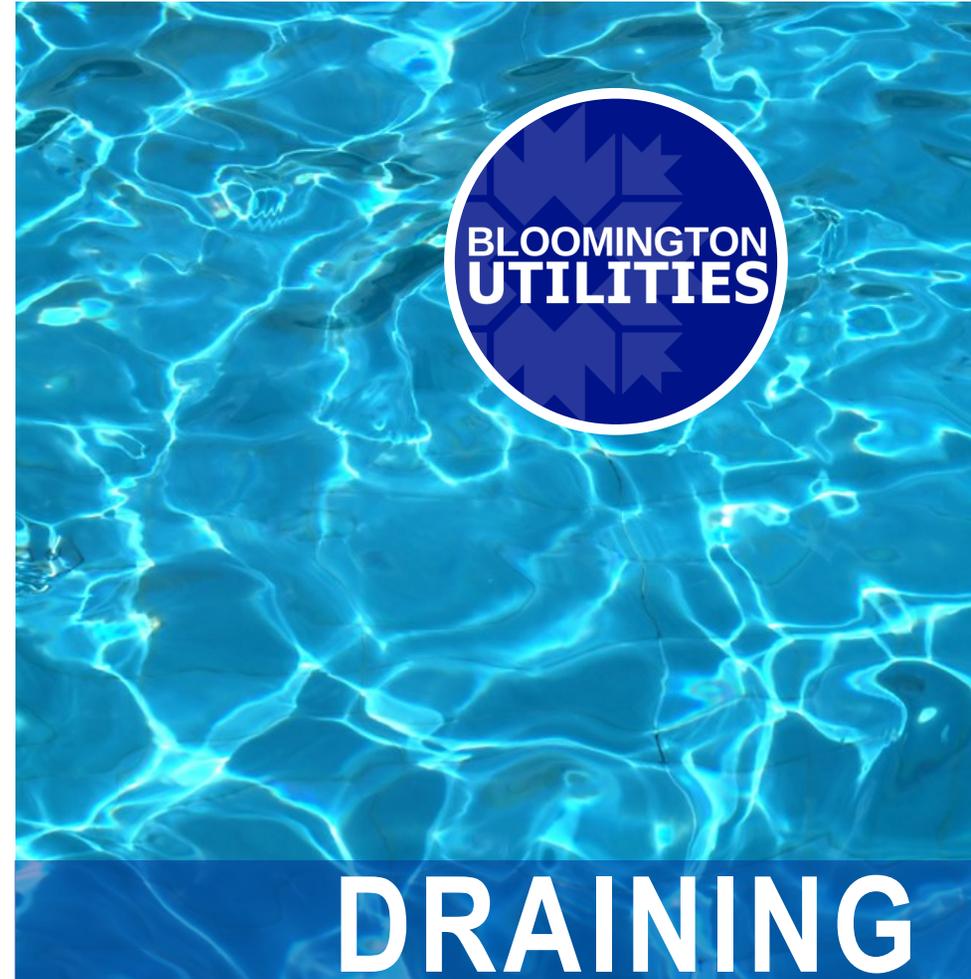
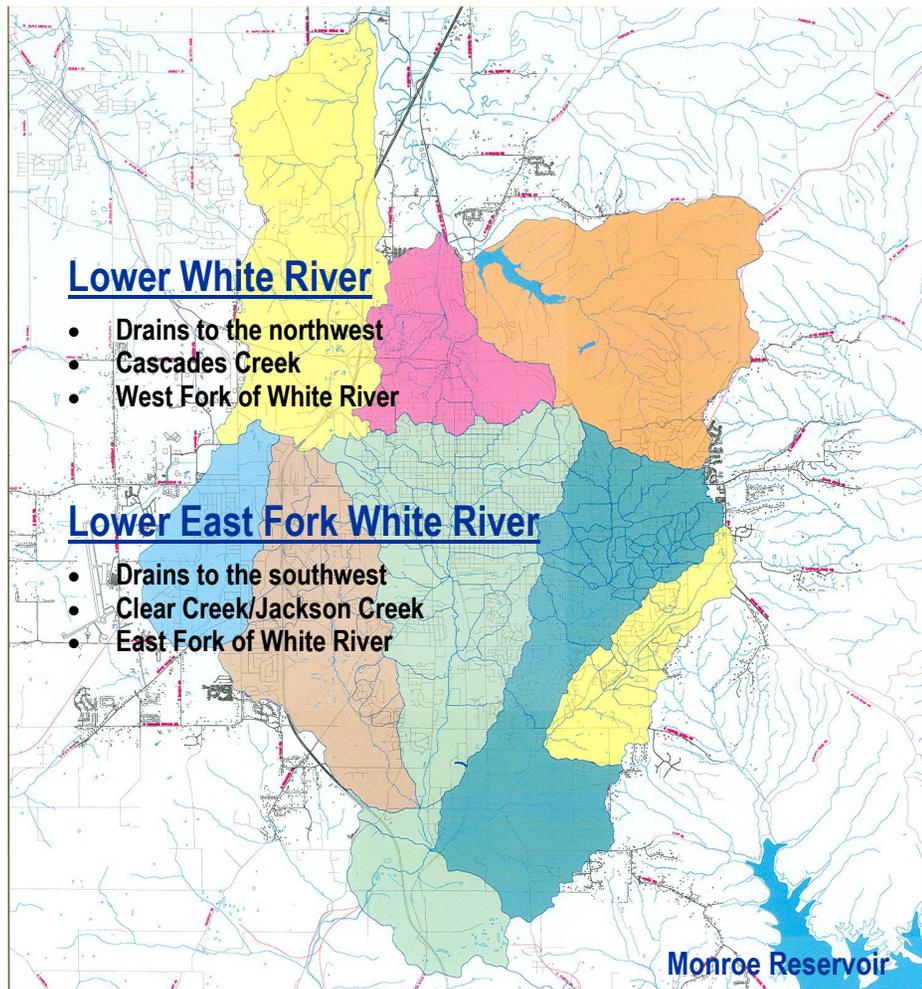
## Two Main Watersheds

The Bloomington area has two main watersheds, or areas of land that drain to particular bodies of water; the dividing line runs east-west, approximately along 11th Street.

For questions information and volunteer opportunities, please contact:

**City of Bloomington Utilities**  
stormwater@bloomington.in.gov  
(812) 349-3656  
[www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater)

Revised 09/14/21



# DRAINING

**Your pool, hottub, spa, and/or other water feature?**

***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 help 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", BMC 10.12.020 "Specific Prohibitions", as well as State Statute 327 IAC 15-13-14 "Storm water quality management plan illicit discharge detection and elimination".

Discharging chlorinated (or other chemically saturated) pool and spa water to a storm drain without following water quality recommendations is considered an illicit discharge and is regulated. The City of Bloomington is required to enforce this practice through a mandate. We (as well as the plants and animals) appreciate your cooperation.

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 (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, snow and/or flooding events.
- Use fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides sparingly or not at all.
- Do not dump yard or other waste in streams or roadways.
- Wash cars on a grassy area with phosphorus-free detergents or use a car wash (which drains 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 with CBU to adopt a (storm) drain!