

Rachel Martin

From: Jeff Loomis
Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2023 2:39 PM
To: Rachel Martin
Subject: RE: Dornan Pool

Hi, Rachel –

This is not straightforward to address. If we start with DEQ and the Health District, pool water is generally considered wastewater, and there are rules regarding discharges from public pools. For private pools, there are no such rules, but there I understand there are some acceptable practices....I will try to get you some more official references from DEQ about these practices, but here is the gist....

More generally, private pool owners should not discharge a large amount of their pool water to their onsite septic system, but daily use discharge is probably okay. When private pool owners want to empty their pools for winter, we typically tell them to allow or treat the water so that chlorine and pH levels are not considered harmful...technically, there are other contaminants to consider, but if they have problems with these contaminants, they probably don't want to be swimming in the pool, either...and then discharge this water onto their property away from their septic drainfield(s). A drywell like what is proposed regulated by IDWR as a shallow injection well. I am almost certain the same concept will apply to a shallow injection well...that is, the water going into the shallow injection well needs to be relatively free of contaminants. Again, I think they can get there for that once a year type emptying of the pool, but the general discharge from the daily use of the pool could be a problem with regards to the IDWR shallow injection well permit. So, I think technically, the "best" setup would plumb daily wastewater from the pool to their septic system and then their pool drain would go to either somewhere on-site that doesn't impact their septic system or adjacent properties (i.e. needs to stay on-site), or possibly to this drywell (assuming IDWR permits such a connection to a shallow injection well). But, is that how all the private pools are setup around the County?...probably not?? I will see what I can find from DEQ regarding what is being accepted elsewhere.

JEFF LOOMIS, PE
Blaine County Engineer

From: Rachel Martin <rmartin@co.blaine.id.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 3:20 PM
To: Jeff Loomis <jloomis@co.blaine.id.us>
Subject: Dornan Pool

Hi Jeff,

You reviewed this pool application in lake Creek in January. The applicant has added a drywell to the revised plans attached. The neighborhood is concerned about the drainage of the pool. I wonder how deep a drywell would need to be in a location with so much wetland area. Don't the wetlands indicated that the ground is saturated and the pool may drain directly into the wetlands? If this is the case, would the chlorine from the pool damage the wetlands?

Let me know if you have questions about this.

Other materials are located here:

<https://www.co.blaine.id.us/1140/126-Alpine-DriveDornin--Mountain-Overlay>

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