

South Shore Home Birth

MIDWIFERY & WOMEN'S WELLNESS

PORTABLE BIRTH POOL USE/RENTAL AGREEMENT

Waterbirth is one of our specialties; we make it a priority to utilize water in any form for comfort. South Shore Home Birth has a pool available for births on a first come first serve basis. In order to maintain cleanliness we ask you follow specific protocols outlined below. Upon accepting the pool and accessories you agree to the following items. Please read and initial each paragraph.

___ The birth pool is available for your birth 2 weeks before and 2 weeks after your EDD on a first come first serve basis.

___ The pool must be used with a form fitting disposable liner and fish net to collect body waste that escapes during labor. (Many companies online sell this tub specific liner). You will need to purchase this separate. Please look for the Birth Pool in A Box, regular size pool liner [.preciousarrows.com](http://preciousarrows.com) has the liner and is available as an add-on to the required birth kit. You will also want to purchase a small fishnet. The same type used for household aquarium so we can "fish out" waste.

___ South Shore Home Birth Midwifery staff, any outside assistants, students, etc. are hereby released and held harmless from any and all responsibility or liability from both maternal and infant complications, including mortality and morbidity connected with the use of any of our birth pools that may occur before, during or after the birth.

___ You are responsible for purchasing a new lead-free hose (RV drinking water safe) with enough length to easily reach between the shower or sink spigot and the bottom of the tub in the chosen tub location. You will need to do a trial "dry" run to see that the fittings are compatible with your fixtures. This will save lots of time and frustration on labor day! This does not include filling the tub. **Please do not fill the tub before the birth unless you have purchased an extra liner for a practice run and have a sump pump to drain the pool.**

The tub will weigh a substantial amount when it is filled and occupied. Please make sure your subfloor/floor can support this extra weight.

___ Clients with well water v/s city municipal water may need to have their water supply tested for problematic bacteria.

___ In the event that we are not able to clean and drain the tub after the delivery of your baby, the tub will need to be wiped down and the pump cleaned before it is returned. This will need to be done before returning. See directions below. (We do try to clean the tub, empty the tub

and pack it up to take it when we leave your home, there are times when we are unable to do so... called to another birth, transfer to the hospital, etc.)

____ You agree to contribute towards the repair or replacement of the birth pool or accessories in the event of damage or non-returning of the pool, draining pump or the inflating air pump.

THANK YOU!! HAVE A WONDERFUL BIRTH EXPERIENCE!!

Directions for Cleaning:

Where to dump your water

You have set your pool up in a location that allows you good access to your water source and good access to your water dump location. Most people will drain their birth pool into their bath tub or shower. Others who own their property, will drain their birth pool into their grass, flower bed or other location. DO NOT drain your birth pool to public locations, sewer drains, or into creeks. If you drain onto your property, some home owners like to 'water in' the birth water by running fresh water over the top of the drain site. Draining 'up hill' such as into a sink does not work well unless you are using an electric pump that can effectively push the water.

Draining the pool

Once mom and baby are out of the pool you should first remove any particles that you do not want going through your water pump or through your draining hose. Using a long handled Debris Removal Net scoop and dump as much of these 'particles' as you can. This may not be a good job for someone who is squeamish. These 'particles' will be blood clots, meconium (baby's first bowel movement), vernix (creamy, waxy coating on baby's skin), pieces of the amniotic sack and maybe some maternal fecal material. Once you have scooped the pool, you can then set up the sump pump on loan from SSHB.

IMPORTANT: Never place a used submersible water removal pump into a birth pool until mother and baby are out of the pool for good. This is a good way to introduce dangerous bacterial into the birth pool. This includes setting up and filling the tub to do a practice run. **Please do not do this. You may inflate the tub for spacing purposes but do not fill the tub.**

Submersible Water Removal Pump or Sump Pump

This type of pump goes directly into the pool and allows you to attach the same hose you used to fill the pool to the top of the pump for draining. The pump with the hose attached, goes into the pool. The hose should be taken to your dumping area and then the pump is plugged in. The Submersible Water Removal Pump will empty your pool in about 10 to 15 minutes. To clean the pump after emptying your birth pool you can fill a sink or five gallon bucket with clean water and run this through the pump. **Then please run bleach water through the pump, using 1 cup of bleach to a 5 gallon bucket ration.** The outside can be wiped down with an antibacterial wipes which are in the crate or Clorox wipes. It is important to always treat this pump as 'contaminated' and never place your used pump into water that you do not wish to contaminate, especially a birth pool before the mother and baby are out of the pool for good.