Air conditioner cooling coils require a condensate drain with a trap in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions (312.1). The condensate drain must go to a drywell or an indirect waste, or to a condensate pump that connects to the drywell or indirect waste. An indirect waste connection can be made to a laundry standpipe, an accessible inlet on a bathtub overflow, or to a sink tailpiece (312.6). Condensate from a high efficiency (Category IV) furnace can be combined with the AC condensate. Condensate cannot be combined with the discharge of a temperature and pressure relief valve.

Air conditioner cooling coils in an attic also require a drain pan that extends fully beneath the area of the cooling unit. The pan requires a drain that discharges in a location that is readily observed (312.2). This requirement also applies to high-efficiency (Category IV) furnaces.

Condensate is typically terminated in drywells. Drywell specifications are as follows:
1. The minimum size of a residential drywell is 2 foot square by 2 foot deep.
2. The nearest edge of the drywell shall be at least 3 feet from any structure or building foundation.
3. The drywell shall be filled with minimum 1" rock.
4. The top of the drywell shall be covered with building paper or plastic sheeting with 6" of earth or concrete above the paper.
5. The condensate pipe from the cooling coil (min. ¾”) shall connect indirectly to a minimum 1½ in. drainpipe. The indirect connection shall be made by an air break at the edge of the foundation.