

Compliance Checklist

Begin by gathering the information for 1-6 below, and then answer the remaining questions.

1. Does the pool have suction outlets? If not, the inspection is complete.
2. Pump manufacturer & model number
3. Measured TDH
4. Drain sump measurements
5. Drain cover data
6. If there are suction outlets (main drains, vacuum fittings, equalizer lines) determine the total flow rate generated by all pumps in the system.
7. Are the drain covers, blockable or unblockable, compliant with the P&SS Act?
8. If the covers are blockable, do they need a secondary anti-entrapment device and is one present?
9. If there are multiple floor drains, are they at least three feet apart center to center? If not, is there a secondary anti-entrapment device or system?
10. Are the drain cover flow rate specifications equal to or greater than the flow rate of the system?
11. Is the drain cover secure and attached to the sump according to the manufacturer's instructions?
12. Are there vacuum lines present? CPSC recommends that these be covered whenever the pool is in use.
13. Do the skimmer equalizer fittings have compliant covers?

For Frequently Asked Questions go to:

www.poolsafely.gov/faqs/



Professional Training

A schedule of training classes and webinars for state and local health and enforcement officials can be found at

www.nspf.org/Resources/spa_safety/Training.aspx

Or call
719-540-9119

Since 1965, the National Swimming Pool Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has encouraged healthier living through aquatics by funding research and creating world-class educational materials.

*Healthy Pools.
Healthy Bodies.*



More information can be found at the National Swimming Pool Foundation* and Pool Safety websites.

www.nspf.org www.poolsafely.gov



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Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act

COMPLIANCE GUIDE



Pool and Spa Safety Act

On December 17, 2007, the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (P&SS Act) was signed into federal law requiring all public pools and spas to have suction fittings that comply with the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 or successor standard. Implementing and enforcing the P&SS Act will help to prevent deaths and injuries by entrapment, making pools and spas safer.

► Enforcement

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is the federal agency responsible for enforcing the P&SS Act and has the authority to conduct compliance checks of pool and spa drains throughout the country. States are authorized, but not required, to enforce the requirements of the federal P&SS Act. State or local law is allowed to be more restrictive than the federal law as long as it does not make complying with the P&SS Act a physical impossibility.

► Model State Legislation

States wanting to enact or amend legislation to prevent child drowning and suction entrapment injuries and deaths can find the CPSC-developed Model Legislation at www.poolsafely.gov/wp-content/uploads/modelvgb.pdf. It covers the following topics:

- ◆ **Barriers** – Residential pools, spas and hot tubs must be enclosed by effective barriers to entry. These barriers include fences and/or walls at least 48" high, access gates equipped with a self-latching device or dwelling walls with either an audible alarm system or a power safety cover.
- ◆ **Entrapment** – All pools and spas shall be equipped with devices and systems designed to prevent entrapment by pool or spa drains. New pools and spas must have either more than one drain, one or more unblockable drains and/or no single main drain. All existing pools and spas must be equipped with a drain cover that meets the P&SS Act standards outlined in this brochure.

Compliance Requirements

The P&SS Act mandates the following regulations for public pools and spas:

- All pool drain covers manufactured, distributed or entered into commerce on or after December 19, 2008, must meet the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 or successor standard.
- All public pools and spas must be equipped with new ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 compliant drain covers.
- Pools and spas operating off of a single main drain (other than an unblockable drain) must also add one or more of the following options:
 - ◆ A safety vacuum release system (SVRS)
 - ◆ A suction-limiting vent system
 - ◆ A gravity drainage system
 - ◆ An automatic pump shut-off system
 - ◆ A disabled drain
 - ◆ Any other system determined by the CPSC to be equally effective as, or better than, those listed above.

If a pool has two or more main drains more than 3 feet apart, it may be exempt from this final requirement. Pools and spas with unblockable, single main drains are also exempt from this requirement.

A Tragic Toll On American Families

According to the CPSC, nearly 400 children under the age of 15 die annually in pool- and spa-related drownings, and another 4,200 are treated for submersion injuries. These statistics do not include drowning or injury by entrapment, which can include hair entanglement, suction to the body or a limb, evisceration and mechanical entrapment. Between 1999 and 2009, CPSC learned of 94 reports of circulation entrapment, including 12 fatalities, 73 injuries and 3 no-injury incidents in pools, spas and whirlpool tubs.

Unblockable Drains

- ◆ A drain cover that is larger than 18"x23" may be placed over a smaller sump to replace a smaller cover of a *blockable* size, if allowed by the manufacturer.
- ◆ The unblockable cover must be P&SS Act compliant, ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007.

Equalizers

Equalizer lines are submerged suction outlets or drains and must either be covered with a compliant cover or plugged.

Skimmers

The CPSC does not consider skimmers to be part of a "multiple drain system" because skimmers are designed to clog.

Compliant Products

A list, by manufacturer, of products compliant with the P&SS Act can be found at www.poolsafely.gov/industry-operators-professionals/pool-safety-products/.

