



Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act

What is the Baker Safety Act?

Federal law regulating pool and spa drains and suction systems

When does the Baker Safety Act take effect?

Midnight, December 19, 2008

What does the Baker Safety Act regulate?

1. All Pool and Spa Drain Covers

All drain covers manufactured, sold, or installed after midnight December 19, 2008 must be certified ASME A112.19.8 – 2007. Certification must be by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory. This applies to public and residential drains.

2. All public pools and spas suction systems

How the Baker Safety Act Applies to Public Pools and Spas:

- ▶ All public pool and spa drain covers must be replaced with new covers that are certified to the ASME standard.
- ▶ In addition to the new drain covers, all public pool and spa suction system must be inspected and when necessary, updated according to the following:

Single drain systems – require additional protection

Drain disablement by reversing the flow through the drain, filling the drain with concrete, or otherwise permanently disabling the single main drain.

- Add a second drain at least 3-feet away
- Install a Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS)
- Install a gravity drainage system
- Install a vent pipe
- Install an automatic pump shut-off system that meets the performance requirements of an SVRS

Dual-drain systems with drains less than 3-feet center to center also require the same additional protection as a single drain system

How the Baker Safety Act Applies to Residential Pools and Spas:

- ▶ After December 19, 2008, new residential pools and spas must have drain covers that are certified to the ASME standard.
- ▶ Existing residential pools and spas DO NOT have to be updated.