



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE • COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 58-09-DES

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

**CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE**  
**SECTIONS 116064.1-116064.2**  
**FEDERAL VIRGINIA GRAEME BAKER**  
**POOL AND SPA SAFETY ACT**

On October 11, 2009, Assembly Bill 1020 was signed into California State law. This bill adds Sections 116064.1 and 116064.2 to the California Health and Safety Code. These new sections incorporate provisions of the Federal Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB) into California State law and are intended to prevent suction drain entrapments and drowning.

To see a copy of Assembly Bill 1020 in its entirety, please visit [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov) and search "Bill Information".

**New Pool Construction**

Any new pool constructed on or after January 1, 2010 is required to have at least 2 main drains per pump that are hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more "T" fittings and separated by a distance of at least 3 feet to the center of the drains (See illustration/example #1). All main drain/suction outlet covers must comply with ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standards. For pool construction requirements visit our web site [www.rivcoeh.org](http://www.rivcoeh.org), click on Plan Check, then Forms and Guidelines under Pool and Spa Plan Check.

**Existing Pool Retro-Fits**

Every existing pool constructed before January 1, 2010 must be retrofitted by July 1, 2010 with main drain/suction outlet covers and anti-entrapment devices or systems that comply with ASME/ANSI performance standards A112.19.8 and A112.19.17 as in effect December 31, 2009. Existing pools have the following options:

**1. Pools or Spas with previously approved split main drains/suction outlets:**

- Change out all main drain/suction outlet covers with covers complying with ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standards. The flow rating of each cover shall be equal to or greater than the flow rating of the pump it is connected to. For example, if a pump is rated at 100 gpm at 60 feet of head, each cover of the split suction must be rated at 100gpm or greater. Pumps equipped with 3 or more suction outlet covers, refer to the table on page 2.



Number of covers/grates per system	Minimum flow rating of each cover/grate - % max. system flow rate
2	100%
3	66.7%
4	50%
5	40%
6	33.3%

- In addition, each main drain/suction outlet cover requiring a sump must be installed per manufacturer specifications or field constructed per manufacturer or ASME/ANSI performance standards (See illustration/example #2).
- Note: All sumps will be field verified by this department prior to final approval.

2. Pool or Spas with single main drains/suction outlets (three options)

- a. Split the main drain/suction outlets to have at least 2 suction outlets per pump that are hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more “T” fittings and separated by a distance of at least 3 feet to the center of the drains. All main drain/suction outlet covers and required sumps must comply with ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standards (See illustration/examples #1 and 2). Note: All sumps and hydraulically balanced “T’s” must be field verified by this department prior to final approval.
- b. Install unblockable suction outlet covers (A cover of any size and shape that a human body cannot create a suction entrapment hazard; i.e.: minimum 18”x23” rectangular drain covers) which complies with ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standards. Note: Spa recirculation and booster suction must be installed under separate unblockable covers.
- c. Change out all main drain/suction outlet covers to be ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 compliant and install a Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS), Suction-Limiting Vent System, Gravity Drainage System, Automatic Pump Shut-Off System or any other system that is deemed in accordance with federal law which conforms to ASME/ANSI A112.19.17 performance standards.



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Under California State law, ANY construction of or renovations/alterations to a public/ semi-public pool or spa including: remodeling, equipment changes, splitting main drains, changing out drain covers, adding devices, etc, must be approved by this Department prior to commencing the work.

Commercial pool contractors or owners that perform pool modifications will be required to obtain approvals before performing any work. If work is completed such as splitting main drains, without proper approvals, the pool may be required to be emptied and the drains chiseled out to expose the proper split and “T” configuration. Any other type of pool modifications completed without plan check approvals may require similar action.

PLAN SUBMITTAL

1. Submit three (3) sets of detailed plans and specifications, complete a swimming pool construction plan application form, and pay the required plan check fees. **Plan check fees** are currently **\$400 per enclosure** (Enclosure = maximum of 2 bodies of water. Additional \$400 fee for each additional pool/spa combination). Pools/spas in separate areas will each be charged a **\$400 plan check fee**. This fee covers plan and/or worksheet review and two (2) field inspections. Any additional inspections will be charged the hourly rate (currently \$145/ hr). Additional fees will be required for additional work.
2. The plans must provide sufficient information to demonstrate compliance. Plans must include pool and spa dimensions (area, volume, etc...), location of suction outlets, pipe sizes, sump elevations and specifications of drain covers and equipment.
3. In addition to plan submittal and approval by this Department, it is the responsibility of the owner/contractor to contact the local Building and Safety Department for additional requirements.

Completion Notification for Public Pools Retrofitted on or after January 1, 2010

Within 30 days following completion of required pool construction or installation each pool owner shall file a completed copy of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) compliance sign off form to the County of Riverside Environmental Health Department.



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Completion Notification of Public Pools retrofitted between December 17, 2007 and December 31, 2009

1. Obtain proper plan and field approvals from the County of Riverside Environmental Health Department.
2. Submit a completed copy of the CDPH compliance sign off form to the County of Riverside Environmental Health Department.
3. In lieu of the CDPH compliance sign off form you can provide the following:
  - a. Provide a signed statement attesting that all work was completed per approved plans.
  - b. Provide a document containing the name and license number of the qualified individual who completed the required work.
  - c. Provide a copy of an approved construction final from the County of Riverside Environmental Health Department.

**NOTE\*\*** It is the owner's responsibility to be sure the contractor hired has the approved license to perform the scope of work proposed.

If you have any further questions, please contact your local Riverside County Environmental Health office and ask to speak with a Plan Check Specialist.

\*Document available in an alternate format upon request

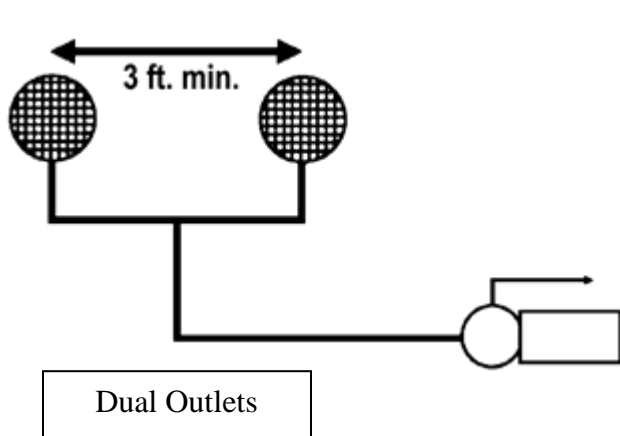
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OFFICES IN: RIVERSIDE, BLYTHE, CORONA, HEMET, INDIO, MURRIETA AND PALM SPRINGS  
For more information call (888) 722-4234

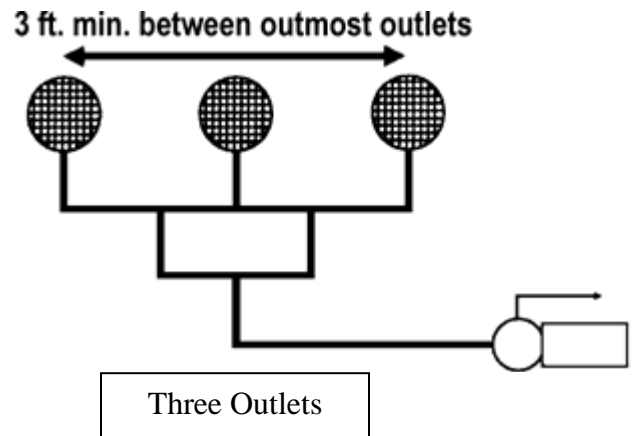
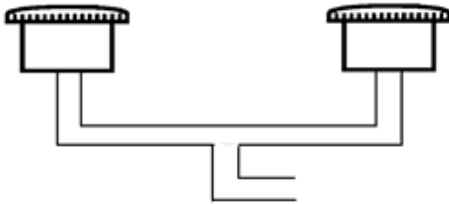
**Department Web Site – [www.rivcoeh.org](http://www.rivcoeh.org)**



Illustration/Example #1



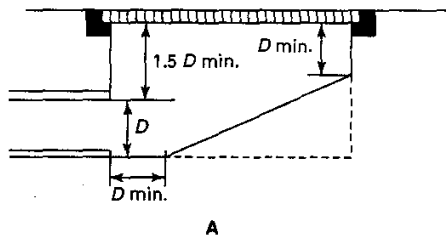
Correct



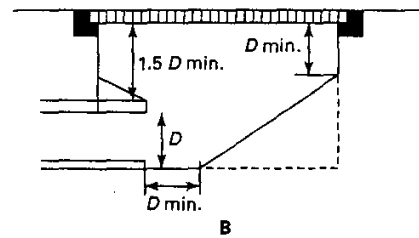
Incorrect



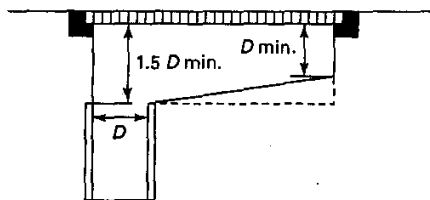
Illustration/Example #2



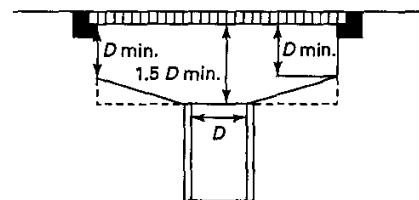
A



B



C



D

- GENERAL NOTES:  
 (a)  $D$  = inside diameter of pipe.  
 (b) All dimensions shown are minimums.  
 (c) A broken line ( \_ \_ ) indicates suggested sump configuration.