



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS
Environmental Health Services**

99 Jesse Hill Jr., Drive, S.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Telephone (404) 730-1301 Fax (404) 730-1462

Fulton County Board of Health

**Phoebe Bailey, PhD, Chair
Lynne P. Meadows, RN, MS
Monica Ryan, BS
Khaatim S. El, BA
Samantha P. Williams, Ph.D
Mary Long, RN**

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Dear Pool Owner:

The Environmental Health Services Division of the Department of Health and Wellness is making you aware of a federal law passed in December, 2007, called the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (the VGB Act). This law requires that all pools in the United States have ASME/ANSI-certified/VGB Act-compliant main drain covers by December 19, 2008. Failure to comply could result in a minimum fine by the federal government of \$1.8 million and up.

If your pool is not currently in operation, such as a seasonal pool closed now but will reopen for the 2009 summer, then you have until that time to comply. Once the pool opens on or after December 20, 2008, such as pools operated year round, it must be in compliance with the VGB Act requirements and the Fulton County swimming pool code. We strongly suggest you also review any inspection reports, letters or notices issued by Environmental Health in the past to schedule corrections to violations noted by your inspector in 2008 or before. Any changes for main drain covers, barriers, or other work at your pool must be approved before the changes are made and will require a Modification Permit. Once the new main drain covers have been installed at your pool, you must provide a written statement certifying that the main drain covers comply with the VGB Act before your pool will be allowed to open.

We have posted a lot of information about the VGB Act and procedures for you to follow to modify your pool to meet the new federal standards and be in compliance with modification procedures required by the current Fulton County code, "Swimming Pools and Recreational Waters". Please go to the department website at: www.fultoncountygahhealth.org click "Environmental Health".....scroll down to "Swimming Pools" for VGB Act information, a free copy of the Fulton County pool code, a copy of a form letter for you to complete and give to the pool inspector, and a copy of a Modification Permit Application for your use.

DO NOT MODIFY YOUR POOL WITHOUT A PERMIT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

If you have any questions, please contact the district Environmental Health office where you are located:

North (above I-285 north): 404-612-1801

Central (I-285 north to I-20): 404-730-1301

South (south of I-20): 404-763-5579

We appreciate your cooperation.

Environmental Health Services Division