



Environmental Services

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Date: December 19, 2022
To: Pool Owners/Operators
From: Jessica W Sanders, REHS
Plan Review & Recreational Sanitation Program Manager
Re: VGB Documentation Verification

Swimming pools must be compliant with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB) before being permitted to operate. During the annual opening/permitting inspection of a swimming pool, the inspector from Wake County Environmental Services will use the following procedure to field verify that the VGB documentation (Pool Drain Safety Compliance data form) on file matches the equipment currently installed at the swimming pool. All components of the Pool Drain Safety Compliance data form for each pump must be field verified and approved by Wake County Environmental Services prior to the issuance of an operation permit, in accordance with NC Rule .2539(c).

VGB documentation expiration dates are based on the drain cover manufacturer's expiration date. When the covers expire (and are replaced), new documentation is required to be submitted that is signed/sealed by NC design professional.

New for 2023 pool season: Updated documentation that is signed/sealed by NC design professional will be required to be submitted to wcpools@wakegov.com when a pump or drain cover has been changed or does not match the VGB documentation on file.

1. For the inspection, the inspector will have access to the current VGB documentation on file for pool being inspected.
2. The inspector will verify the pump(s) make and model listed on the form is what is installed in the equipment room.
3. The inspector will verify the drain cover(s) make and model listed on the form is what is installed in the swimming pool.
4. The inspector will verify the equalizer cover(s) installed:
 - a. The VGB documentation will indicate whether the pool has equalizer covers installed or if they have been disabled.
 - b. If the form indicates there are no equalizer covers, the inspector will verify there are none installed in the pool.
 - c. If the form indicates that there are equalizer covers, the inspector will verify the cover make and model listed on the form is what is installed in the swimming pool and that they have not expired.

5. If applicable, the inspector will verify the safety vacuum release system installed for the swimming pool:
 - a. If the pool is required to have a secondary method of preventing bather entrapment, it should be identified on the VGB documentation.
 - b. The inspector will verify the safety vacuum release system listed on the form is installed and working properly in the equipment room.
6. If applicable, the inspector will verify the flow rate of the pump system if a Flow Reduction was used with the VGB certification:
 - a. The VGB documentation for some pumps has been approved based on a flow reduction. If the form indicates a flow reduction, it must be verified that the current flow rate of the pool does not exceed the flow rate of the drain covers.
 - b. The inspector will identify the current flow rate displayed on the flow meter and note the flow rate on the inspection form.
 - c. The inspector will refer to the VGB documentation for max flow rating of the drain cover.
 - d. Scenarios:
 - i. If the current flow rate is less than the max rating for the cover = compliant.
 - ii. If the current flow rate is more than the max rating of the cover = permit will be denied.
 - iii. If the flow meter is not working = permit will be denied.
7. The inspector will document that the equipment and the VGB documentation match by writing the date in the "Field verification complete" box of item #6 on the inspection form.

Resolutions to possible scenarios:

1. If the pump manufacturer make and model do not match the VGB documentation = permit will be denied and an updated PDSC signed/sealed by NC design professional must be submitted to wcpools@wakegov.com. A reinspection can be requested once updated VGB documentation has been approved.
2. If main drain cover manufacturer make and model do not match VGB documentation = permit will be denied and an updated PDSC signed/sealed by NC design professional must be submitted to wcpools@wakegov.com. A reinspection can be requested once updated VGB documentation has been approved.
3. If VGB documentation indicates the pool has equalizer covers, but the covers have been removed = permit will not be denied, but the owner/operator must provide updated PDSC with accurate information to wcpools@wakegov.com.
4. If VGB documentation indicates the pool does not have equalizer covers, but the covers are still existing in the pool = permit will be denied. Options to resolve:
 - a. Refer to guidance at www.wakegov.com/pools for proper disabling equalizer covers. Pool owner/operator can provide documentation of how and when equalizer lines were disabled to wcpools@wakegov.com. A reinspection can be conducted when equalizer lines have been properly disabled.
 - b. Replace covers and submit an updated PDSC signed/sealed by NC design professional to wcpools@wakegov.com. A reinspection can be requested when updated VGB documentation has been approved.