



Glendale's compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act

May 5, 2009

New federal standards require new drain cover installations or alternative solutions on certain types of pool and spa drains that could entrap swimmers underwater. As a result of the new standards, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is requiring all public pool and spa operators to inspect their drain systems and bring them into compliance. However, many of the compliant drain covers are not yet available from manufacturers.

The CPSC has indicated that wading/baby pools and spas with single drains and flat grates are the highest priority for compliance. This type of grate system does not exist in Glendale's wading pools. Glendale's aquatics facilities have either been newly constructed or renovated. All Glendale pools have newer filtration and circulation systems with multiple drains that do not pose the potential risks to swimmers as older single-drain pool systems. Inspections of each facility were conducted by a certified engineer. The results of the inspections require only minor changes for all city pools to be in compliance with this act. The City is currently engaged with a commercial pool construction company for minor changes to the drains in accordance with full compliance of the safety act. Pools open this summer include: Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center, Rose Lane Aquatics Center, Cactus Pool, Ironwood Pool and O'Neil Pool.

For more information about Glendale's aquatics program, go to www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation.

Information on the CPSC requirements is available on the agency's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.