



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

### EHS Circular Letter #2008-27

TO: Directors of Health/Districts  
Chief Sanitarians, Building Officials, and  
Pool Contractors, Engineers and Architects

FROM: Pamela E. Scully  
Sanitary Engineer III  
Recreation Program  
Environmental Health Section

RE: ADDENDUM TO THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL  
DESIGN GUIDE

DATE: April 14, 2008

---

The attached addendum contains criteria that will be incorporated into the public swimming pool design requirements effective as of the date of this letter. All applications must have these changes incorporated into their design in order to be considered for approval.

These changes are being implemented as a result of the *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act*; a Federal Law that mandates new safety measures. Please note that with these new revisions all public pools (swimming, wading, whirlpool spa, etc.) approved, from this date forward, will be required to have a minimum of two main drains.

Please call this office at 860-509-7296 with any questions.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, Chief, Environmental Health Section, DPH  
Pamela Kilbey-Fox, Branch Chief, Local Health Administration Branch, DPH



410 CAPITOL AVENUE, MS#51REC  
PO BOX 340308, HARTFORD, CT 06134  
Bus: 860.509.7296 Fax: 860.509.7295

*Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer*

**ADDENDUM TO THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL DESIGN GUIDE**  
EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 14, 2008

**Inlets and Outlets (Main Drains)**

Section 6.2: (REVISION)

In all newly constructed public pools, with plans and specifications approved after the effective date of this addendum, a minimum of two (2) main drains (outlets) shall be provided. One outlet must be located at the deepest point of the pool (Section 6.1); while the second outlet may also be located on the pool floor or near the bottom of the pool on a nearby side wall. A minimum separation distance of three (3) feet, measured edge of cover to edge of cover, shall be maintained between each outlet. Where the width of a pool is more than 30 feet, outlets shall be spaced no more than 30 feet apart, nor more than 15 feet from sidewalls.

Section 6.2 a: (NEW)

Each outlet shall have its own suction pipe that shall be manifolded with the suction pipe(s) from the other outlets prior to the circulating pump. The manifold shall be located in close proximity to the location of the drains. The piping system shall be valved to permit adjustment of flow through it (Section 6.1); however, no valves shall be located on the outlet suction pipes prior to the manifold.

Section 6.2 b: (NEW)

All main drain covers in public pools must conform to the entrapment protection standard of the current ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 performance standard.

**Main Drains – Wading Pools**

Section 25.3: (REVISION)

Main Drains for wading pools must comply with Sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.2a and 6.2b of the Connecticut Public Swimming Pool Design Guide, with the requirement for two main drains applying to both newly constructed and existing wading pools.

**Main Drains - Whirlpool Spas**

Section 26.8 (REVISION)

Main Drains for whirlpool spas must comply with Sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.2a and 6.2b of the Connecticut Public Swimming Pool Design Guide.

Rev: 4/14//2008