

VGBA Compliance

Supplemental Guidance

Use this document to help fill out your Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGBA) Compliance Verification Form.

NOTE: You must submit for plan review and get health department approval before you:

- Install a different make or model of drain cover.
- Make any changes to a sump or piping.
- Move a drain cover.

Questions?

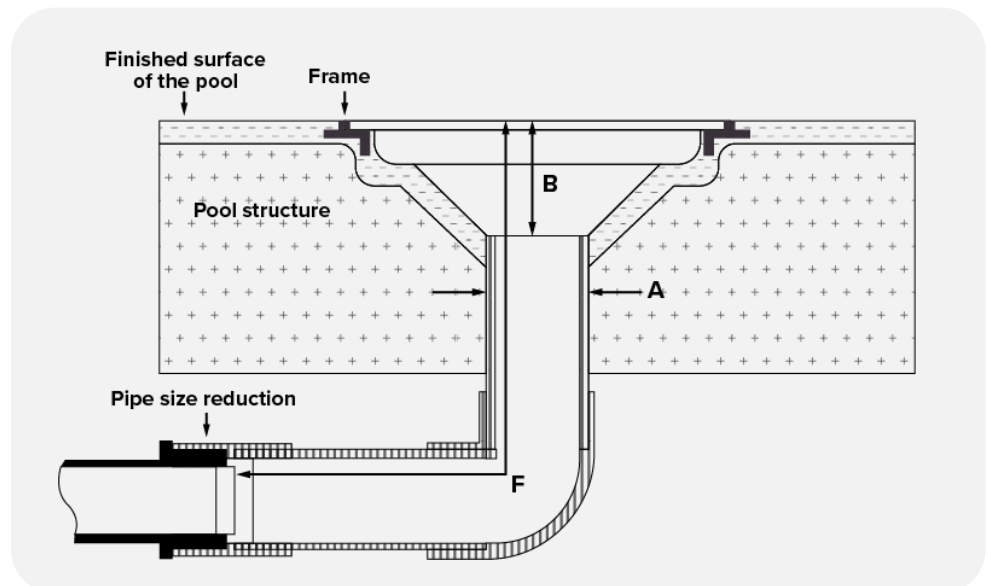
Contact (253) 649-1713 or
communitysafety@tpchd.org.

Main drain information

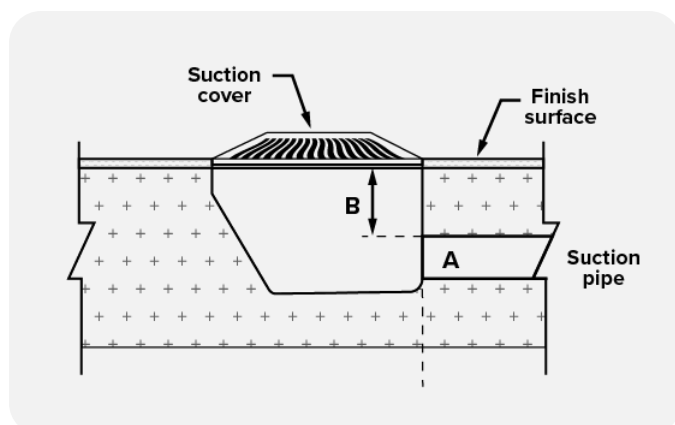
Most pools have 2 main drains. Under the cover of each drain is a sump. Sumps can be either manufactured in a factory and then installed or constructed by the pool builder when building your facility. To be compliant with VGBA your sump must meet the requirements of the drain cover manufacturer. Use these diagrams to help make measurements.

Bottom pipe orientation

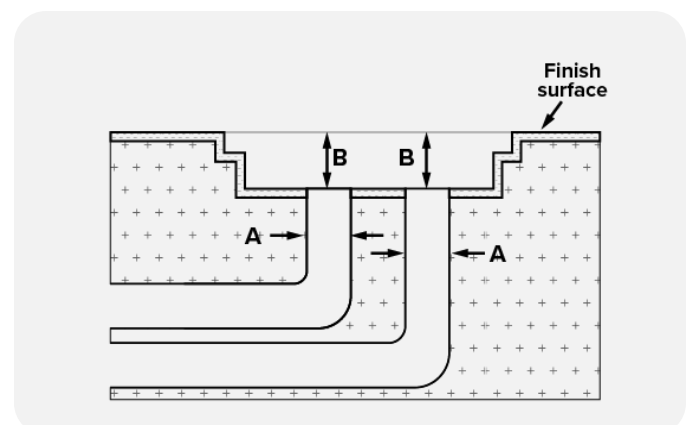
- A. Specified PVC pipe size
- B. Minimum pipe depth
- C. Minimum ledge depth
- D. Maximum ledge width
- E. Minimum pipe offset
- F. Minimum length before reduction



Side pipe orientation

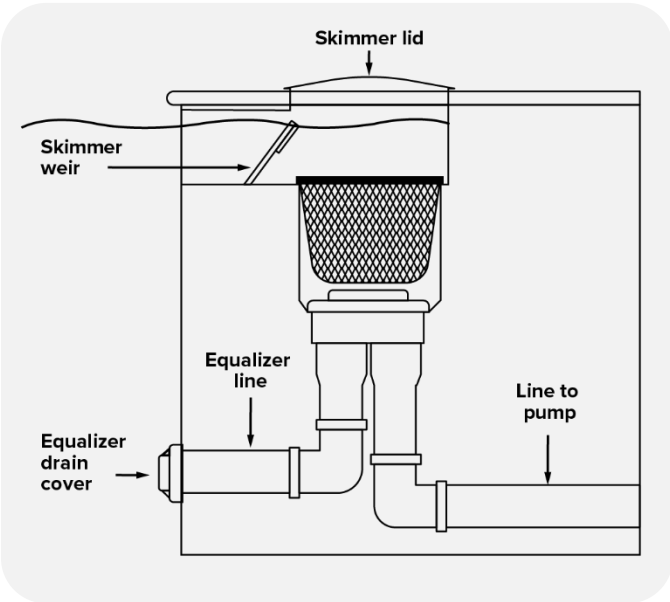


Two pipes under the same cover



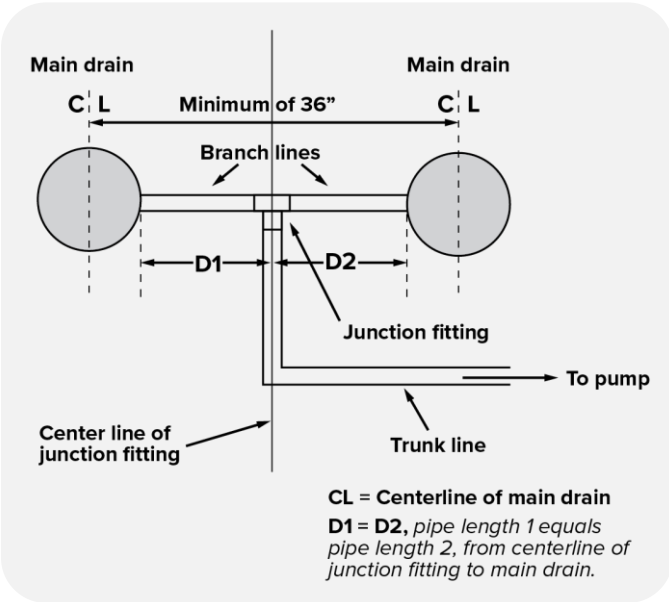
Equalizer line information

You may have equalizer lines installed. Equalizer lines help protect the pump if your water level drops. Use this diagram to figure out if you have equalizer lines. You may see a hole underneath or close to your skimmer. Equalizer lines must have covers that prevent entrapment.



Are your main drains closer than 3 feet apart?

Main drains must be at least 3 feet apart when measured between the centers of the drain covers. Use the diagram to check your main drains are at least 3 feet apart.



If they are not 3 feet apart or you only have 1 main drain, use [DOH’s Single Main Drains Guidance](#) to select additional entrapment prevention equipment.

When is plan review required?

I am replacing with the same cover.	I am replacing with a different cover.	I am modifying the sumps or piping.
• Verify all manufacturer’s requirements are met during installation. • Document with pictures if your facility does not have engineered plans that show your sumps. • If all manufacturer’s requirements are met, plan review is not required.*	• Plan review is required. • May be submitted by a pool professional or an engineer/architect.	• Plan review is required. • May be submitted by a pool professional or an engineer/architect. • Plans must be stamped by an engineer or architect.

*If requirements are not met, installation is not in compliance and you must go through plan review to make changes. Visit tpchd.org/healthy-places/pools-and-spas/plan-review/ for more information.