



Division of Food and Recreational Safety

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Information for Pool Operators About New VGBA Requirements and Drain Cover Replacement

In 2021, manufacture of drain covers meeting the 2008 VGBA standard stopped and '2017' drain cover manufacture began. The '2017' standard is intended to improve the safety of the drain covers and will have more specific instructions about their installation when replacing drain covers.

'2008' covers may still be used until their supply runs out and may stay in place until expired. However, when you install a '2017' cover, **you are required to follow those specific instructions for installation and may not use any 2008 instructions.** Also, please note that a '2017' replacement for a '2008' drain cover may have a lower rating than the cover it is replacing. Please refer to the instructions that come with the cover to determine the rating.

It is the pool operator's responsibility to make sure the drain cover rating of the replacement cover is high enough for the peak flow of the recirculation pump and that any cover is installed according to manufacturer instructions. Your Sanitarian will be looking for an installation date and signature on the specifications sheet that accompanies the drain cover, an affidavit from the pool service contractor that installed the drain cover, or on the VGBA Logbook DFRS-BFRB-014. This logbook and other resources can be found on DATCP's [Public Swimming Pools webpage](#).

Please consult with your pool professional with any questions you may have or contact the DATCP Recreational Mailbox at DATCPDFRSREC@wisconsin.gov.

Additional Resources

Check out the following articles and YouTube video on this topic, which you may find helpful:

[The VGBA Standard Just Changed: What Your Company Needs to Know \(linkedin.com\)](#)

[The Drain Cover Law Has Changed | AQUA Magazine](#)

[VGBA 2017 - WHAT'S CHANGING IN 2021? - CMP \(c-m-p.com\)](#)

[Industry Adapts to Changes in National Pool Drain Cover Standard \(horizonpoolsupply.com\)](#)

[VGB Updates with Aquastar](#)

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