



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Gabriel Albornoz  
*Director*

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In December of 2008, a new Federal Law was enacted to eliminate unsafe suction hazards on main drains in swimming pools. This was the Virginia Graeme Baker (VGB) Pool and Spa Safety Act. This law requires the installation of anti-entrapment drain covers. This act affects all commercial public swimming pools.

The Recreation Department has been working very diligently with both local and state regulating agencies to on bring all our pools into compliance. Every effort has been made to perform the replacement of these drains and covers before our opening date of May 23, 2009. Unfortunately, the biggest shortages for grate/drain covers are related to larger, filed fabricated sumps that often have unique designs for that specific facility.

As of May 23, we have been able to update most of our pools. However, as we operate some very large and unique recreational pools, we have had to order custom drains and grating. This grating has taken longer to design and manufacture than was anticipated. We are working very closely with manufacturers and suppliers and hope to be in full operation in the upcoming weeks.

The following facilities will have limitations on access to some features:

**VIRGINIA GRAEME BAKER ACT IMPACTED FACILITIES:**

Bethesda Outdoor- Main pool CLOSED, Lap Pool, Baby Pool and Teach pool only available  
Glenmont Pool – Leisure Pool and Baby pool CLOSED, Main pool open.  
Germantown Pool – Leisure Pool CLOSED, Main pool, Baby Pool Open

**Full Operations:**

Upper County Pool – All features available, no limitations  
Long Branch Pool - All features available, no limitations  
Western County Pool - All features available, no limitations  
MLK Outdoor Pool - All features available, no limitations

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Aquatics