



## NMHC/NAA Pool/Spa “Unblockable Drains” Survey Results

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recently revoked its interpretive rule on “unblockable drains” for purposes of compliance with the VGB Pool and Spa Safety Act. This action may impose new compliance requirements for apartment communities with pools.

NMHC/NAA conducted a survey to assess member impact of this decision as well as quantify the overall compliance costs to the apartment industry since the Act’s effective date of 2008. The results from the survey’s 771 respondents are summarized below.

### Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act of 2007 (VGB Act)

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**1. How many pools or spas do you operate in your communities?**

5,487 pools/spas

**2. How many of those pools/spas have a single main drain?**

1,841 (33.5% of all pools/spas)

**3. How many drain covers did you replace to comply with the VGB Act?**

8,083 drain covers

**4. What was the approximate cost to comply with this requirement (\$)?**

On average, respondents paid approximately \$6,539 (\$947 per drain cover) to come into compliance with the VGB Act. This figure may not include permit fees or labor expenses.

### CPSC Drain Cover Recall (May 2011)

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**5. How many of your pools/spas were impacted by the drain cover recall?**

1565 pools /spas

**6. How many covers did you have to replace?**

749 respondents answered question 6. Of the 1,565 pools/spas affected by the recall, respondents only supplied data for 750 drain covers being replaced. Some respondents noted that their covers have not yet been replaced. The primary reasons provided for not yet coming into compliance are:

- *Manufacturer delay:* The drain covers are still on back order from the manufacturer or manufacturers are not responding to recall inquiries.
- *Installer delay/shortage:* Due to high demand and location restraints, installers are unable to schedule timely appointments with some impacted owners/operators.