



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY CITY OF MANASSAS PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act

“The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (Act) promotes the safe use of pools, spas and hot tubs by imposing mandatory federal requirements for suction entrapment avoidance and by establishing a voluntary grant program for states with laws that meet certain minimum requirements as outlined in the Act. Effective December 20, 2008, the Act is being administered by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).”

Our pools do meet some of the requirements of the Act by either having an “unblockable” drain or a multi-drain system. Due to our unique pool design there is not an off the shelf “fix” for our application. We have engaged Paddock Swimming Pool Company to design a custom solution for each of our pools. They are a highly regarded regional design and construction firm with over 50 years of experience. Once a solution has been designed and implemented, our pools will be in compliance with the Safety Act.

In the interim we have trained our Lifeguards, Camp Counselors and Swim Instructors to be vigilant about the dangers of entrapment. They have also been trained to respond to such an incident should someone become entrapped.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our Aquatics & Safety Coordinator, Jim Heffel, at 7039-993-8538 or email jheffel@gmu.edu.