



Recall of Anti-Entrapment Drain Covers: Guidance for Pool and Spa Owners

RISK ALERT

SEPTEMBER 2011 NUMBER 36

What is the Hazard?

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced a voluntary recall of about a million drain covers used in pools and in-ground spas in the U.S. Replacement or retrofit of these drain covers may be required in certain cases. CPSC investigated the testing and certification process by which the flow rates of the drain covers are evaluated and determined that because of improper testing procedures, some swimming pool and in-ground spa drain covers were incorrectly rated for protection against body entrapment. Incorrectly rated covers could pose a possible entrapment hazard to swimmers and bathers.

What Products Have Been Recalled?

Specific drain covers from these manufacturers have been recalled:

A&A Manufacturing (Phoenix, Ariz.)
www.aamfg.com

AquaStar Pool Products (San Diego, Calif.)
www.aquastarpoolproducts.com/draincoverrecall

Color Match Pool Fittings (Surprise, Ariz.)
www.poolfittings.com/drain_cover_recall.htm

Custom Molded Products (Tyrone, Ga.)
www.c-m-p.com/DrainCoverRecall.htm

Hayward Pool Products (Elizabeth, N.J.)
www.hayward-pool.com/draincoverrecall

Pentair Water Pool & Spa (Sanford, N.C.)
www.pentairpool.com/draincoverrecall

Rising Dragon USA (E. Sweetwater, Tenn.)
www.risingdragonplastics.com/en/draincoverrecall.html

Waterway Plastics (Oxnard, Calif.)
www.waterwayplastics.com

The recalled covers vary in size and shape, but each includes model number markings, a flow rating, and the manufacturer's name. It is important to identify the manufacturer of the drain cover in your pool or spa to determine whether your drain cover is affected by this recall. The pool covers, which were manufactured in the United States and China, were sold through independent distributors to professional pool and spa builders and installers. Model numbers and photos of the products may be found on the manufacturers' websites at CPSC's pool safety website, www.poolsafely.gov.

Who Is Affected?

If you have a kiddie pool, wading pool, or an in-ground spa, or a swimming pool with a single drain that has anti-entrapment drain covers that were installed after December 19, 2008, the drain covers in your facilities may be part of the recall.

Except for kiddie pools, wading pools and in-ground spas, retrofit or replacement of installed anti-entrapment drain covers is not required in pools with multiple drain systems or gravity drainage systems or for anti-entrapment covers installed before December 19, 2008.

If you are not sure if your pool or in-ground spa is covered under this recall, contact the builder of your pool or pool service provider, or contact the Drain Cover Recall Hotline at 1-866- 478-3521 for more information.

What Should Pool Owners And Managers Do?

- If your swimming pool or in-ground spa has a drain cover covered by this recall, close the facility to all use until a professional examines the pool or in-ground spa to determine whether a replacement drain cover or retrofit is necessary.
- If a replacement or retrofit is needed, keep the pool or spa closed until after the work is completed and inspected.
- Do not attempt to remove or alter the drain cover.
- A replacement or retrofit should be performed only by a qualified pool or spa professional.
- Drain covers should only be removed by pool installers or other professionals when they are in possession of, and are ready to install, a replacement or approved retrofit.
- Pool owners must register with the manufacturer of the recalled drain cover, and, where applicable, have the service performed by the manufacturer's authorized service provider, in order to avoid incurring costs for the replacement or retrofit of recalled covers.

For More Information

Association of Pool and Spa Professionals
Drain Cover Recall Hotline (866-478-3521)
Drain Cover Recall website
www.apsp.org/draincoverrecall

Consumer Product Safety Commission
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
Pool Safety website: www.PoolSafely.gov