



City of Santa Barbara Stage Three Drought Regulations **Pool Covers**



Regulation:

"Swimming pools and spas shall have a cover that conforms to the size and shape of the pool or spa and acts as an effective barrier to evaporation. The cover shall be in place during periods when use of the pool or spa is not reasonably expected to occur." Section 2.i., Resolution No. 15-036

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I participate in the pool cover rebate program?

Purchase a pool cover that conforms to the size and shape of your pool and covers at least 85% of the pool's surface area. Fill out the application found at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates, and send us a picture of the cover on your pool along with a copy of your receipt. The rebate covers 50% of the cost of material covers (not labor) up to \$300 total per site.

Do I qualify for the rebate if I already purchased a cover?

Yes, as long as it was purchased after May 20, 2014 and the receipt states this.

Will the rebate cover my pool and spa separately?

No, the \$300 maximum applies per site. In some cases, pools and spas are connected and both need a cover, so we will reimburse for 50% of the total cost of both, up to \$300 total. The rebate does not apply to stand-alone above-ground spas. In-ground spa covers will only qualify if they are in conjunction with a pool cover.

Will the rebate cover the crank to roll up my cover?

Yes, up to \$300 total for all pool cover materials, which in some cases includes a crank. You can submit all receipts for pool cover materials (not labor) but the rebate maximum will remain at \$300.

What if safety concerns or physical constraints keep me from installing and maintaining a material pool cover?

We understand that there are safety issues associated with some types of pool covers, and that some residents are physically challenged when it comes to taking a heavy cover on and off. Our goal is to reduce evaporation - *the average uncovered pool evaporates over 600 gallons of water per week*. Talk to your pool maintenance company or local pool supply store about alternative types of pool covers, there are several options out there to achieve compliance with 85% of the surface area covered. If you're still having trouble with compliance, call (805) 560-7586.

If you are purchasing a pool cover for a multi-family or commercial pool, please review the County Environmental Health [guidelines for pool covers](#).