

Don't Skip the Check-Up: Top 5 Problems You'll Face If You Don't Maintain Your Chemical Feeders

Chemical feeders are the heart of water quality in a commercial swimming pool. Whether you're using a salt system, a CCH feeder, or a Stenner pump, these devices are responsible for accurately delivering sanitizers and balancing chemicals that keep your pool water safe, clean, and compliant. But like any hardworking piece of equipment, feeders need regular attention. When they're neglected, problems don't just pop up—they multiply.

If you're not following a scheduled maintenance plan, here are the top five issues you're likely to face:

1. Equipment Failure and Costly Downtime

From clogged CCH feeders to ruptured Stenner tubes, worn-out components eventually break down. That leads to emergency service calls, unplanned pool closures, and a ripple effect of operational headaches. Routine cleaning and replacement of wearable parts prevents last-minute breakdowns and keeps your schedule running smoothly.

2. Chemical Overdosing or Underdosing

Chemical feeders that aren't properly maintained may deliver the wrong dosage of chlorine or acid. This can cause wild fluctuations in sanitizer levels and pH—resulting in irritated swimmers, failed health inspections, or worse, unsafe water conditions. Consistent maintenance ensures feeders dose accurately and keep your water balanced.

3. Buildup at Injection Points

Over time, buildup can form where chemicals are injected into the system, especially in high-use facilities. If not cleaned, this can block chemical flow, damage plumbing, or even lead to leaks. Checking and cleaning injection points should be part of every routine service.

4. Shortened Equipment Lifespan

Chemical feeders are an investment. When ignored, they wear out faster and need to be replaced more often. Regular upkeep extends the life of your feeders, saving you money on repairs and replacements down the line.

5. Inconsistent Water Quality

Without properly functioning feeders, your water chemistry can swing wildly—one day too acidic, the next with no chlorine residual. Swimmers notice the difference, and so will your inspection reports. A consistent maintenance schedule keeps water quality stable and reliable.

Final Word

The best pool operators don't wait until something breaks. They plan ahead, schedule maintenance, and prevent issues before they start. Chemical feeders may be out of sight, but they should never be out of mind. Take care of them—and they'll take care of your pool.