

Key Indicators Pools Need Professional Cleaning: Common Red Flags to Watch For

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EINPresswire.com/ -- Maintaining a clean and safe pool requires more than just regular skimming and chemical treatments. As the owner of [Kingfish Pools Inc.](#), [William Gunzburg](#), emphasizes, certain signs indicate when a pool needs thorough professional cleaning to preserve water quality, prevent harmful bacteria growth, and keep the pool looking pristine. Failing to address these red flags can result in a host of issues that affect both the safety of swimmers and the longevity of pool equipment.

While many pool owners keep up with basic cleaning tasks, there are specific visual and chemical indicators that suggest deeper issues. Understanding these signs can help pool owners avoid costly repairs, health risks, and unwanted downtime during peak swimming season.

Cloudy Water: A Common Sign of Poor Filtration

One of the most obvious signs that a pool requires professional attention is cloudy or murky water. Clear water is a key indicator of proper filtration and chemical balance. When the water becomes cloudy, it usually signals that the filtration system is not functioning effectively, or that the chemical levels are out of balance.

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Cloudiness can be caused by several factors, including inadequate chlorine levels, high pH, or the presence of

microscopic debris. Without proper cleaning, cloudy water can become a breeding ground for



bacteria and algae, which not only makes the pool unsafe for swimmers but also contributes to a visually unappealing environment. Addressing this issue requires more than just adding chlorine; it often calls for a thorough assessment of the filtration system and a deep cleaning to remove particles that regular maintenance may miss.

Algae Growth: A Clear Indicator of Imbalance

Algae growth is another clear sign that a pool needs professional cleaning. Algae can form in pools that have poor circulation, inadequate chlorine levels, or improper pH balance. It typically appears as green, yellow, or black spots on pool walls, floors, or steps. If left untreated, algae can spread quickly, making the pool unsanitary and uninviting.

“Algae is not only unsightly, but it also poses a health risk to swimmers,” says William Gunzburg, owner of Kingfish Pools Inc. in Metairie, Louisiana. “The presence of algae is a sign that the pool’s chemical balance is off, and simply adding more chlorine won’t solve the problem. A professional cleaning service is needed to thoroughly remove algae and restore the pool’s balance.”

Professional cleaning services can address algae growth by using specialized cleaning agents that target different types of algae, along with a deep scrubbing of pool surfaces and a recalibration of the pool’s chemical levels. This ensures that the problem is fully resolved, preventing further algae blooms and keeping the water safe for swimming.

Unpleasant Odors: A Warning of Chemical Imbalance

An unpleasant odor around the pool, particularly the strong smell of chlorine, is often a sign that the pool’s chemical balance is off. Many pool owners mistakenly believe that a strong chlorine smell indicates a properly sanitized pool, but in reality, it usually means that the water is suffering from a buildup of chloramines—compounds formed when chlorine binds with contaminants like sweat, oils, and urine.

Chloramines not only cause irritation to the eyes and skin but also reduce the effectiveness of chlorine as a sanitizer. When chloramines build up in the water, they emit a distinct odor that serves as a warning sign that the pool’s water chemistry needs to be corrected.

Eliminating this issue requires more than just adding chemicals; it involves shocking the pool with a higher dose of chlorine to break down the chloramines and restore proper chemical balance. Professional cleaners are equipped to handle this process efficiently, ensuring that the water returns to a clean and balanced state.

Stains on Pool Surfaces: A Sign of Mineral Buildup

Discoloration or stains on the pool’s surfaces—such as along the walls, floor, or steps—can be another indicator that professional cleaning is needed. These stains are often caused by mineral buildup, which occurs when the water’s pH and alkalinity are not properly managed. Over time, calcium, iron, and copper can accumulate, leading to unsightly stains that regular brushing cannot remove.

If left untreated, these stains can become more difficult to eliminate and may require resurfacing or costly repairs. Professional cleaning services use specialized techniques and products to remove these stains and restore the pool's surfaces to their original condition.

Addressing mineral buildup also involves rebalancing the pool's water chemistry to prevent further staining. By taking a proactive approach to stain removal, pool owners can maintain the aesthetic appeal of their pool while avoiding more extensive repairs down the line.

Excess Debris: When Skimming Isn't Enough

Debris such as leaves, dirt, and insects are common in outdoor pools, but if the accumulation becomes excessive or the pool feels gritty to the touch, it may be time for professional cleaning. Regular skimming and vacuuming are essential, but they may not always be enough to fully address deeper debris issues that can clog filters, disrupt water flow, and lead to chemical imbalances.

Professional cleaning services not only remove visible debris but also clear out the pool's filtration system and vacuum the bottom of the pool where finer debris tends to settle. This thorough cleaning helps maintain optimal water flow and filtration, reducing the risk of equipment malfunctions and ensuring that the pool remains safe for use.

Scaling and Corrosion: A Warning of Water Imbalance

Scaling on pool surfaces and corrosion on metal components are often signs of imbalanced water chemistry. Scaling typically appears as white or gray deposits on the pool's tile, plaster, or liner, and is caused by high calcium levels. Corrosion, on the other hand, can affect metal fixtures such as ladders, railings, and filters, leading to rust and deterioration.

Both scaling and corrosion indicate that the water's pH, alkalinity, and calcium hardness are not properly managed. Left unchecked, these issues can damage the pool's surfaces and equipment, leading to costly repairs. Professional cleaning services can address scaling and corrosion by adjusting the pool's chemical balance and using specific treatments to remove existing deposits and restore the pool's surfaces and equipment.

Conclusion

Keeping a pool clean and safe requires more than routine maintenance. When issues such as cloudy water, algae growth, unpleasant odors, stains, excessive debris, or scaling appear, it's a clear sign that professional cleaning is needed. Addressing these red flags in a timely manner helps prevent further damage, ensures the safety of swimmers, and maintains the overall beauty and functionality of the pool.

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