

Proper preventative maintenance keeps water features clean, beautiful, and performing optimally, and ensures they have a positive impact on the environment for many years to come.

Here are four top tips facility managers, property managers, and property owners can utilize to keep their water features running smoothly and cost-effectively for the long term:

**01. Follow a regular and thorough checklist, including:**

- regular water-quality testing
- keeping the fountain interior and skimmer and strainer baskets clean
- performing electrical work in accordance with NEC codes
- checking automation components and control panels

**02. Familiarize yourself with the water feature's typical operating parameters, and look for anything out of the ordinary, such as:**

- excessive water consumption
- excessive chemical consumption
- valves that aren't set at their normal operating position
- gauges showing atypical pressure variations
- lights that aren't working properly

**03. Check pumps regularly by:**

- putting a hand on top of the motor housing to make sure pumps don't feel excessively hot
- if they do feel hot, check amperage with an amp-clamp to confirm whether the motor is running within its nameplate rating.
- sound; do you hear any grinding, scratching, or squealing?
- leaks
- atypical vibration

**04. Make sure staff is trained thoroughly, including:**

- ensuring they're able to complete everyday maintenance procedures
- providing them with a checklist so that all parts and systems are correctly maintained – OTL provides this checklist for all of our clients as part of the maintenance manuals we provide for every project that we build, and we use a service ticket system to ensure quality and timeliness for all our our repair projects

To find out more about OTL's maintenance services or to obtain a custom maintenance quote for your water feature, contact OTL at (714) 637-4747.