4 Facts to Know About Hard Water

Most communities have hard water

All natural water supplies exhibit at least some degree of hardness Which means the water used for cleaning contains a certain amount of dissolved minerals, primarily calcium and magnesium compounds, that affect your equipment's cleaning ability and efficiency.

Hard water reduces cleaning efficiency

Compared to soft water, hard-water washing requires greater effort and greater quantities of cleaning agents. That's because minerals in hard water react with soaps and detergents to produce a sticky, gummy deposit called soap curd. Soap curd interferes with cleaning action and leaves a dull film on cleaned surfaces. Furthermore, the minerals in hard water are left behind as water evaporates, leaving spots.

Hard water increases operating costs

Obviously, increased detergent use means increased costs. But that's not all. When hard water is heated, minerals form a hard, rock-like scale on the insides of pipes and tubes. This scale eventually reduces water flow and slows heat transfer in pressure washer coils. The result is reduced performance and increased fuel costs.

Hard water reduces equipment life

The gradual buildup of scale on the insides of pipes and tubes is a costly process. Eventually, water flow is significantly reduced. Moreover, since heat is not transferred as efficiently, coils can overheat, possibly resulting in service calls, shortened life or replacement.

What's the Solution? A Water Softener

Water Softeners are Effective

With the elimination of soap curd, soil removal is significantly improved. In one study conducted by an independent laboratory, comparing hard- and soft-water cleaning, soil removal ranged from 30% to 50% higher when detergents were used with soft water. In addition, the removal of hard-water minerals reduces or eliminates spotting and dulling soap-curd film. Finally, with soft water you'll use less detergent and take less time to do the job.

Water Softeners are Trouble-Free

Commercial and residential water softeners have been around for decades. The technology and equipment are safe, effective and reliable. Water softeners consists of a tank that contain a bed of cation exchange resin (which does the softening), a separate vessel that stores the salt-brine solution used for resin regeneration, plus control valves and timers for automatic operation. All you do is periodically add salt to the brine tank.

Water Softeners Prolong Equipment Life

After installation of a water softener most scale buildup is eliminated, which means pipes and tubing don't get clogged. Your equipment operates at greater efficiency for a longer period of time, reducing your maintenance, repair and replacement costs.