

SlideRenu™

Common Defects Found in Fiberglass Flumes

When a small defect or crack is overlooked, it can grow to become a hazard to riders.

Photos are courtesy of Wally James of Con-Serv Associates.



This image shows a stress crack, distinguished by a brown stripe near the bolts, on the backside of a flume.



A crack caused by a failed glass joint, as shown above, usually starts small and grows rapidly.



This is an example of early stress cracking in the gel coat.



These surface cracks are caused by inappropriate coating over the fiberglass.



The classic star crack shown above is caused by an impact, such as a dropped tool or a sharp blow to the slide. If not attended to, the fiberglass will eventually chip or flake away.



Staffers should closely monitor the late-appearing manufacturer's defect shown above.

SlideCare, LLC

3428 Napa Boulevard, Suite 1971 Avon, Ohio 44011 • T: 216.503.7203 • F: 440.930.2490



This image shows a failure in a slide joint that was glazed over either by the manufacturer or park staff. These failures always start small, and eventually a piece of fiberglass "blows out" through excessive flexing.



This is an example of a typical leak in a slide joint due to a gasket failure.



When a footing is below grade, staffers cannot perform a proper inspection. Landscaping in the image at left and sand in the image at right hide the footings from the inspector.



The footing above sits in a collection hole, exposing the vertical columns to excessive moisture.



The deteriorating, rusted steel bolts and the cracks in the wood structure above deserve a structural evaluation.



If not given proper attention, rusted and corroded steel columns and beams can lead to progressive deterioration of a slide's support structure. This image shows rust in the foundation as a result of overhead leaking.



Visible stain lines run down this column.



The bolts on the collar show signs of water trapped inside.



The underside of these steel steps exhibit the signs of a long period of neglect.