

WILSHIRE GARDEN M A R K E T

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CELEBRATING 18 YEARS

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Established 1997

JUST ADD WATER

Warmer weather causes everyone to focus their attention on feeling cooler while adding tranquility, grace, ambiance, and beauty to their homes and gardens. There is something soothing, almost magical, about gently splashing water as it pushes out the disruptive noise of the world.

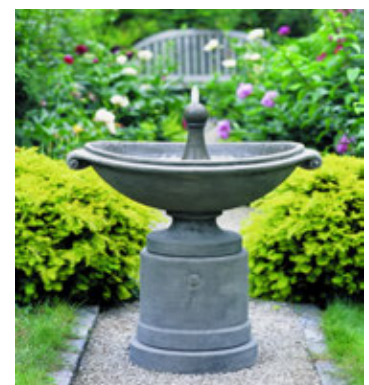


This year, Wilshire Garden Market is offering some very unique fountains in sizes that can be useful for indoor garden settings, small patios and courtyards.



The Equinox fountain is available in a table top version shown and also in a two tier courtyard size. This is a very urban contemporary style that complements a minimalist surrounding.

The elliptical shape of this fountain makes it unique. and flexible when planning its placement in the garden or courtyard. It can be placed to be viewed from all sides or where its width is an advantage. It is available in two sizes: the Medici Elipse, with



a deep oval bowl that makes for easy maintenance.. For those without space for the Medici, there is the smaller Borghese. It is gratifying to have the sophisticated look of a large fountain in a smaller size.

One of the smallest of the garden terrace fountains, the Pebble Fountain can be used outdoors on a table, console, or retaining wall; use it indoors, too, almost anywhere!



Hear the splash, feel the serenity.

HOW DOES A FOUNTAIN WORK?

Each week a customer asks what is involved in having a fountain in their garden. Many people



presume that plumbing is involved. No water source is needed, just a grounded plug.

You will need a location that is accessible and level, that has an electrical outlet. You will want to know that since fountains recirculate their water,

some evaporation will occur and you will need to fill it when necessary.

To function properly and remain in working condition, the pump must always be covered over



by water. Learn about the fountain pump, its few parts, and how they work. It is easy.

You should know that what the fountain is made of will hold up with normal use in

our climate. You will want to know how to protect it in winter. In the fall, prior to freezing temperatures, drain the water and cover the fountain for the winter. The reward makes any effort worthwhile.

PLANT WATERING 101

Summer in Oklahoma is frequently hot with less than adequate rain, meaning that our watering techniques can make or break a container planting. Following a few watering tips can be crucial to having container plantings look their best even in the summer heat. Most plants will thrive if you pay attention to the following:

- 1) The pot should have at least one drain hole. Proper drainage is essential for healthy roots.
- 2) To know when a plant needs watering, look at it and touch the soil; damp soil is darker,

paper bag brown is dry. Some pots do dry out faster than others. The potting soil you use is a factor. There are gel crystals that you can either mix in yourself or that are already mixed into the soil. We like Miracle Gro potting soil with gel crystals already mixed in. The gel crystals are designed to absorb water and release it slowly, leaving the potting soil damp for a longer period of time. There is a three month round of plant food embedded in the potting soil too.

- 3) Water early in the morning, not at night when any wet foliage may encourage fungal disease to form. Water the soil, not the plants' leaves. You like to drink water through your lips, not by having it splashed in your face. So do plants. Water slowly



and thoroughly around the entire root zone, the *outer edges* where the new roots absorb food and water. Water until it drains out of the bottom of the pot. It might require a gallon of water to adequately cover a 10"-12" pot. We like to use the shower feature of the hose sprayer and count at least 60 seconds for each plant watered. Do not allow the pot to sit in water for long periods of time.

- 4) Fertilize *after* watering to avoid burning the roots. Remember, water the soil, not the leaves, and water around the outer edges where the soil first dries out.

In the landscape, think of the shrubs and plants as slightly reduced mirror images below the ground as are visible above ground. Water these deeply and thoroughly. Five minutes will not help. Deep watering allows plant roots to grow deep and stay healthy. Water deeply once a week; it is much better than watering shallowly more frequently.

Happy watering, happy plants!

ACCENTS ENHANCE

Accents make gardens interesting. It is fun to tuck a little almost-unseen surprise under a hosta leaf, or fern frond, waiting for someone to notice. Some gardeners have a true gift for accessorizing their gardens. Of course, the nature and appearance of the piece or pieces has much to do with how it affects the garden's appearance.



Each time we visit someone's garden, we notice that each garden bears the personality of its owner, even in the smallest of details.



Whether sophisticated or whimsical, the pieces you choose for your garden and patio should add beauty and comfort and make you happy each time you use them.

JULY TO DO LIST

- Maintain 2"-3" of mulch in flower beds.
- Snip herbs as first flowers appear for maximum flavor.
- Pinch back leggy annuals and perennials to encourage bushy growth.
- Stop pinching back mums to allow them to set flower buds.
- Water potted plants more frequently in hot weather, water in the morning.
- Pull weeds to keep them from spreading.
- Provide a birdbath full of clean water for the birds in your garden, four or five feet away from feeders so debris does not fall into water.
- Enjoy your garden even more now that things are slowing down.

Summer is the stuff of dreams. When adults sit at their desks, and children sit in school, they dream of summer. Summer is the time of infinite fun. The day seems to last forever, and the fun never stops. It is a time of romance, excitement and an enjoyment of life.

EXTERIOR DECORATING

Are you in need of some inspiration for your entryway or patio? Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating and small space design consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit and follow-up report to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store at 405-879-1121 to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

