



PLANNING FOR A FOUNTAIN

TIERED FOUNTAINS

- Tiered fountains require a catch basin 1 ½ times the height of the fountain.
- Submersible pumps are typical and are located in the pump case in the basin.
- Dry or in-line pumps are ideal for public fountains, these are located outside of the basin in a vault.
- Automatic water fills can be part of an irrigation system or have a dedicated on/off valve.
- Catch basin should be drained in freezing months.
- Pump should be drained or removed to prevent freezing.
- Filtration systems are not typical, we recommend the use of a pet safe algacide.



UNDERSTANDING THE SPLASH ZONE

Far too many times we have customers trying to squeeze a large fountain into too small of a space. We understand that landscapes need height and a great way to achieve it is with a fabulous splashy fountain. The key word being splashy here. In order to avoid this mistake, we recommend that a fountain have a catch basin that is large enough to catch the fountain splash. In most cases this splash radius is one and a half times the height the water falls. This is a tricky statement as it is not just the height of the fountain we are concerned with. It is the height and point at which the water falls from. Take for example a tiered fountain with various diameter fountain bowls, the largest bowl at the bottom is typically not that far from the catch basin, but it is the farthest way from the center point of the fountain. When you make the calculation for the drop from the largest bowl and add in the width of the fountain bowl it is possible that the size is considerably larger. Review our sketches for a visual on how these calculations differ.

For a wall fountain similar concepts apply. The additional concerns for splashing in wall fountains are if the basin at the ground has any lip against the wall. If the wall fountain has a bowl which spills close to the wall, this back lip could act as a splash point. Water falling onto a solid object will cause additional splash.

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