## LYNCH ESTATE ELEMENTS



## ORNAMENTAL BIRDBATHS

## **BIRDBATH OPTIONS**

- Material options include cast stone, aluminum and lead.
- Birdbath basins are typically shallow to aid in quickly changing out to fresh water.
- Pedestal height is dictated by the garden design.
- Basins with a wide rim at the edge prevent the water from overflowing and provide a perch for smaller birds.
- Our birdbaths do not require removing or covering the bowl in the winter as the water depth is shallow enough to avoid ice damage.
- Adding constant water movement will prevent mosquitos from laying eggs, achieve this by incorporating a fresh water feed, or recirculating pump.





## **BIRDBATHS IN THE GARDEN**

Birdbaths were discovered to have been used around Roman baths, as depicted in ancient frescoes and by the marble fragments found by archaeologists around these sites. Some attribute the modern use of birdbaths to a particular English establishment in the 1830's.

In our industrialized world, with great swaths of urbanization along migration routes, it has been found that our avian friends rely on our domestic gardens for both cleansing and hydration during their long journeys. The National Audubon Society recommends a weekly cleaning of birdbath basins (of any material) with 9 parts water and 1 part vinegar, lightly scrubbing with a brush to remove any debris. Topping off the water level every few days will also help to maintain clean water.

Placement in the garden should be near but not under woody brush or feeders. The debris falling from plants will spoil the water faster. Some deeper basins benefit from stones placed in the center to provide various depths of water for smaller birds. Honey bees also will use birdbaths as their water source.