

WICKENBURG LANDSCAPE & IRRIGATION, INC.

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Water in the Desert

The common distinction between fountains and ponds with several exceptions are that: fountains are nonliving and ponds are a complete live ecosystem. Fountains are typically used in areas where the site and sound of running water is the main purpose. On the other hand ponds

Fountains
are
Non-living

Ponds
are
Living

typically contain all parts of a full ecosystem. The other distinction between fountains and ponds are fountains typically are man-made while ponds are made up of numerous natural pieces. Both fountains and ponds will command your attention as the centerpiece of your yard no matter what location you place them

in. Any type of running water will draw people's attention so the placement of either a fountain or a pond should be the primary factor in a landscape design.

Fountains can range from multi-tiered centerpieces with multiple water outlets to the very simple water glazing over a stone maintaining a constant wet look. Fountains typically are more ornate and often include sculptures. In order to maintain crystal-clear water most fountains are chemically treated to either eliminate or reduce algae. While there are certain products such as UV sterilization lights that can be added to a



fountains pump system the common way to treat a fountain is very similar to a modern pool.

While every yard is not appropriate for a pond they can transform a simple backyard and become the centerpiece of which the rest

of the yard is built around. A pond's ecosystem is typically balanced with the proper amount of water plants and fish with some type of filtration. These ecosystems are fragile and require a delicate balance between the fish's byproducts which feed and nourish the plants and the plants themselves that produce the oxygen that the fish need to live. Although the initial design and set up is more important on a pond and the maintenance is more complicated the overall results are hard to compare with anything that we can put in our yards.



Adding some type of running water to a landscape either through a fountain or a pond may seem like a daunting task but if done properly this can return to you many years of peace and tranquility that only the sounds of running water can bring.

Time to Bloom

It sure feels like spring is already upon us. One of the things that reminds us the most of spring are the flowers; either the wildflowers in the desert or along the highways and the flowers that we plant in our gardens and planter pots. After winter, and for us it was a very mild one, it is refreshing to see the plants start to bud out and watch the desert come alive with color. We might even feel excited enough to go to the local garden center or hardware store and buy some flowers to bring that sense of spring right into our courtyards and back patios. However be cautious about what flowers you are buying.



Just buying flowers might not get you what you hoped for. Most people don't realize that in Arizona

we have two seasons for flowers. The winter flowers can handle freezing but can't handle temperatures over about 95-100 degrees and conversely summer flowers can handle the hot temperatures of 110+ degrees but can't handle the cold temperatures. So as we go out and purchase flowers this spring let's make sure that we are buying more summer flowers that will last all summer instead of winter flowers that will die in a couple of months. It is perfectly fine to mix some winter flowers in with the summer flowers so that as the winter flowers die out the summer flowers have already filled in flower beds or pots.

Next month: what types of plants can be planted in the middle of flower beds, and also planting design and layout.



Excellence above all else

In 2012 pride of workmanship seems to have become a rarity amongst our generation. The idea of doing the best job possible is seemingly being replaced by the notion that more jobs of less quality is somehow better than fewer jobs of high-quality. The majority of today's younger workforce seems more interested in living out fantasies in virtual realities than working hard in a single profession thus building stability for their future. Excellence and

pride of workmanship can be defined in many ways but ultimately will be judged by others. At Wickenburg Landscape we strive to impart these principles of hard work, quality workmanship, and having pride in everything that we complete. If we forget these principles we will become like the person who is just punching a time clock and waiting to get paid on Friday. By constantly defining these principles in everything that we do we will continue to grow in a sustainable pattern that will bring enjoyment and fulfillment to not only ourselves but everyone we come in contact with.

"National Award Winning Landscapes"



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