



Surface Care

**Cast Stone Concrete
Fountains & Birdbaths**



fountainful

Surface Care

A color stain applied to concrete will weather naturally over time, gracefully aging in its own unique way into the environment where your feature has been placed.

➤ **Quick Care:** wipe down surface with diluted vinegar and water or any *mild* detergent. Use a soft cloth, sponge, or brush. Do NOT pressure wash, apply corrosive cleaners, or use anything abrasive. It may take several cycles of wiping/drying before completely clean.

➤ **Deeper Surface Maintenance:**

- **Control Algae & White Scale.** As water evaporates from a fountain or birdbath, white residue may appear on the surface.
- **Protect & Refinish.** Protectants and sprays may prolong the appearance of the original surface before natural aging occurs (although most customers enjoy watching the natural aging process over the years).

FounTec Algaecide & Clarifier

(Safe for plants, birds, & wildlife. Not suitable for fish).



ProTec Scale & Stain Remover

(Safe for all wildlife).

Click the images or paste this link into your browser:
<https://fountainful.com/collections/cleaning-supplies>

Surface Effects

- **Efflorescence.** Meaning “to flower out” in French, this is a chalky white, sometimes grayish residue on the surface when water leaves behind little salt deposits that “flower out” onto the surface. Don’t panic! It’s part of the natural aging process and eventually washes way during a normal weather cycle.
- **Iron Oxidation.** Natural occurrence in cast stone vessels that hold water. Minimal amounts of iron used in cast stone react with water and a pink or orange powder-like substance may become visible.

➤ Stain and refinishing kits can be used for touch-up or to slow the natural aging process. Inquire for details.

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Accelerate the Aging Process Naturally

Many customers ask how they can speed up the normal aging process of a cast stone concrete feature so it begins to resemble an old-world, European garden accent as quickly as possible.

Here are some tips:

- It's best to start with natural concrete that has not been stained or treated.
- Encourage the growth of moss, lichens, and crawling plants by wetting the piece thoroughly and brushing it with either **plain yogurt that contains live & active cultures, beer, buttermilk, or sour milk**.
- You will likely need to repeat the process.
- If possible, place your ornament in the shade.
- Give it time (often many months) for nature to begin taking over!

