



## WINTER CARE & MAINTENANCE

### 1. PLANTERS & BOWLS:

If completely filled with firmly tamped soil to within 1" or less of the rim, no special care is required for winterization. If the planter is empty it must be treated as an urn (see 2). Please visit our web site for planting techniques and a planting diagram. For complete peace of mind with regards to extreme freeze-thaw weather cycles, we recommend the planter opening be covered with a lid. Lunaform planters are routinely surviving the harshest northern winter climates without lids, provided that they are filled completely with soil (and stay filled). However, a simple lid will protect your investment for generations.

### 2. URNS:

With the exception of the Luna, Ebro and Siena, our urns are not usually filled with soil and planted. Consequently, they must be protected from filling and freezing. Lunaform makes concrete lids specifically designed for each urn, matched in both color and finish. However, any waterproof, flat covering which will not blow off is fine.

### 3. BIRDBATHS:

No winterization care is required. May be allowed to fill and freeze.

**Do not fill any planter or planted urn with more than 1" of styrofoam peanuts or gravel to save on soil. This practice does not aid in drainage and can also cause surface discoloration (with styrofoam) or structural damage (with gravel).**

**See <http://www.sustainable-gardening.com/how-to/tips/drainage-in-containers>.**

The exterior surfaces of all Lunaform garden pots require no winterization care or specific maintenance other than periodic re-sealing of the surface to protect against acid rain, ultraviolet light, and loss of color saturation. Moss or mold can develop overtime and, if not desired, can be removed with an algaecide or a weak bleach solution.

Unlike terra cotta (clay) and some cast concrete (often called cast stone) pieces, the surfaces of Lunaform garden pots are not water absorbent and consequently do not break down during freeze - thaw cycles. The specific mix of Lunaform concrete and surface finishes assures you that Lunaform garden pots are the strongest and most durable pieces available.

Because of the inherent nature of concrete, superficial hairline surface cracks do occur in some instances and are considered normal and acceptable. These should not be confused with structural damage or defect.

Salt deposits, or efflorescence, can occasionally develop as they do in terra cotta pieces because of the presence of calcium salts in the soil and in the concrete itself. Most clients prefer the aged appearance of this natural occurrence, but it can be removed with CLR (calcium, lime, and rust remover).