

# WINTER CARE



Extreme and rapid changes in temperature and humidity affect all concrete adversely. Concrete has an inherent tendency to expand and contract with climatic conditions (a phenomenon taken into account by experienced masons who employ expansion joints – like the 'lines' in a sidewalk).

Your Henri cast stone products have been manufactured with mechanical additives which enhance the elastic qualities of the concrete. Occasionally, normal, unharmed surface shrinkage cracks sometime appear – but your Henri cast stone products will not crack due to weather if these simple rules are followed:

- 1. Do not allow water to collect and freeze in fountain bowls or shells!**
- 2. Do not allow water to collect and freeze in planters, saucers or birdbaths!**
- 3. Do not allow statuary or pedestals to sit in a pool of ice!**

Cast stone products left exposed to icing conditions may shale or crack due to the mechanical force of water solidifying and expanding along the concrete surface.

**IMPORTANT:** If your Henri fountain, birdbath, planter or statuary cannot be stored indoors during the winter season, you must at least protect it from ice collection or exposure.

## **“How to” protect Henri cast stone products during the winter season:**

For fountains, first remove the pump and statue, storing them inside if possible. Next, fill the bowl(s) and shell(s) with an absorbent material such as burlap, blankets, etc. Then, cover the entire fountain with a Henri Fountain Cover. Should condensation droplets form on the inside of the cover, they will be absorbed by the material.

For birdbaths, planters or statuary set the pieces on high ground where a pool of ice will not form and then cover with a Henri Fountain Cover.

By following these simple and sensible precautions during the winter season, you will protect your Henri cast stone products for years of beauty and enjoyment!