

Using Wind Accents™ in Your Garden

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Introduction

I'm going to assume that you have or want to have a garden and you want to support it with artwork. The first thing you need to do is ask yourself why you have a garden. Just what it is that makes it a pleasure to you. Ask yourself detailed questions such as do you like the order of plantings, the color of flowers, the shapes of green areas, or the sense of peace and quite you get when you go there. Once you have an idea of what it is that drives you to have a garden, then anything else you put in it should reinforce that. In other words, is artwork going to be subordinate to your garden, or is your garden going to support artwork, or are you going to have both?

Wind Accents™ employ wind to add an extra dimension to a sculpture. So the next thing you need to consider is your wind. Is there a prevailing wind? What is the maximum wind you can expect? Do you have areas where the wind is always variable and gusty? Do you have a sheltered area? Wind Accents™ will have different actions in each situation.

Wind Accents™ are designed to work in minimum winds of 5 mph up to 20 mph. A 20 mph wind is too much for your garden. It will blow your hat off, suck air from your mouth and flatten your flowers. So you are really looking a winds that range from 0 to gusts of 15 mph. Actually most Wind Accents™ will work in no wind at all, just convection currents when the air temperature cools and there is a shift in air masses around your garden. Identify these areas in your garden as possible sites for a Wind Accents™.

The following is an outline checklist for you to evaluate your garden. Go back to the main page and click on a topic for an illustrated and more detailed explanation of ways to use Wind Accents™.

I. What do you have? I think its pretty safe to say, a garden is always evolving and never really finished. You can look at your garden in sections or areas and identify parts that can be graded by some standard such as: beautiful, ok, needs work, I hate it. Think about how you answered the questions and make a grading system on that.

- A. What does the garden mean to you and what it does for you?.
- B. What areas are most important?
- C. What areas need more attention drawn to it.
- D. Does your garden have?:
 - Permanent, perennial plantings.
 - Is there an area that is more of less the same year round?.
 - Do you have an annual section?.
 - Do you have an area that is designed to change with the seasons?.
 - What areas seem to always be ignored?
 - What area never seems to be right no matter how hard you try?

Oak Run Studios, Box 499, Mosier OR, 97040

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A Wind Accent™ can come to the rescue in some situations and be the star of the garden in another. So you need to ask the next really important question: What do you want the sculpture to do? Now I realize you may already have made a purchase without thinking about your garden. You simply liked the artwork and bought it. The principles above still apply and you can still consider garden sculpture as having a job to do

I. What do you want the sculpture to do?

- Highlight / accent.
 - Along edge of planting as a part of it
 - In the midst of a planting in peninsula or island
- Mark a spot, draw attention to it.
 - Attention with shape, size, color, motion.
 - Location
- Add interest with shape, color, size, motion.
- Focal point.
 - end of path or alcove.
 - Inside trellis.
 - On Island.
 - Where path curves out of sight.
 - Shaped planting.
- Surprise.
 - Not seen except from certain points
 - Action of sculpture not expected.
- Be a feature (on stage).
- Mark an entrance.