



A fountain or a water garden, that's the question

Water plays a relaxing as well as an aesthetic role in any garden. It can be used in different ways. However, in our garden designs, this natural element usually comes in the form of a water garden or a fountain.

As improvisation could be very expensive, a water garden requires detailed planning. Among the rules to be respected, all the following must be considered: the depth of the pond, its dimensions, shape, material to be used, as well as the choice of plants and the quality of the earth. Moreover, if the garden design is already complete, the installation of a water feature requires even more meticulous thought. Some vegetation will probably have to be moved and even some paths. All the work must be carried out with an eye for detail favouring a har-

monious integration.

Of course, it isn't necessary to complete everything the first year. You can start with a small project which can evolve over the years. In this way, it will be possible to add another pond which could flow into the first one, to design a waterfall or a stream, or to add more diversified vegetation to blossom all around the water garden. However, remember to surround the edge of the pond with river pebbles to prevent the growth of weeds.

The design requires a little less planning if you would rather opt for a fountain. You just need to choose the site, taking into account the fountain's dimensions and its harmonization with the existing garden. Some types of cascading fountains can become an integral part of a water garden.



Superb water garden, beautifully integrated into the landscape.



A pretty, cascading fountain that can be introduced alone or in a water garden.

Security when landscaping: it's no joke

Everything's decided: the plan is made and you'll finish building your deck before your holidays start. The list of materials is ready and your brother-in-law has promised to come and help you. The ground is marked out and you'll start to dig tomorrow morning. But what about your safety and the safety of your brother-in-law? Whether it's about building a deck, a shed, installing a pond or erecting a play set for children, security must always be a priority.

Add a carpenter's belt or apron to your shopping list. You'll use it to keep any sharp tools in. It's very dangerous to walk around with pockets full of nails! Before starting work, inspect all your tools to make sure that they are in good condition, with no loose or missing parts. The loose head of a hammer could turn into a missile! Don't forget to check the wiring on your power tools as well.

Even if the weather is cold, don't wear loose clothing such as a flapping shirt or a sweater with wide sleeves. If you have long hair, tie it back or tuck it under a cap. When working with a power

tool, don't stand with your feet in wet ground and make sure to have good lighting.

Protect your eyes at all times with a plastic visor or working glasses. Wear ear plugs if you're working with very noisy tools. Don't forget to wear gloves when handling rough material or a mask when sawing wood or spraying paint.

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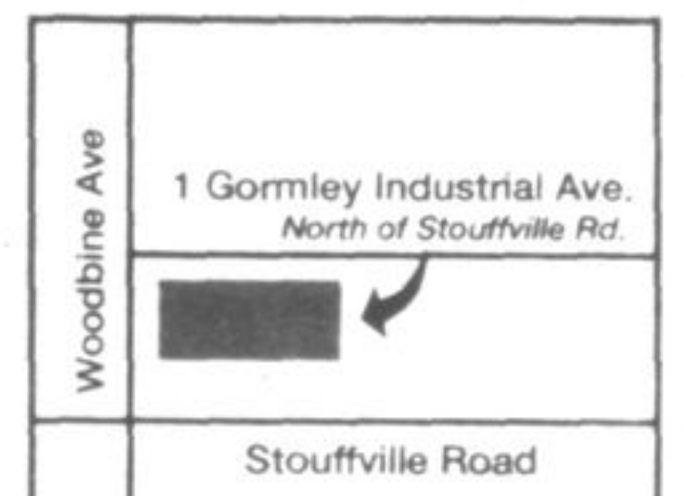
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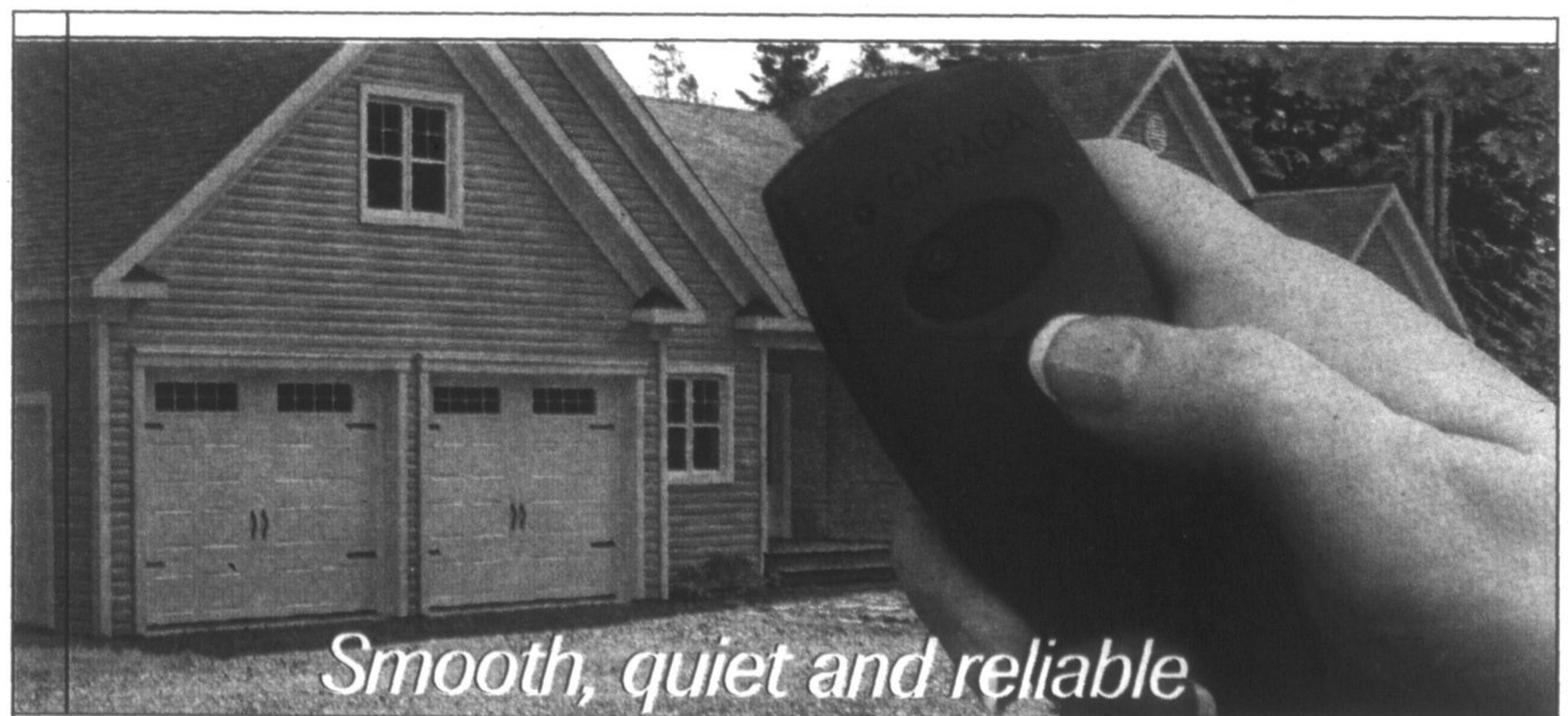
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