

# CARE, CLEANING & PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES



LIKE ANY DECORATIVE EXTERIOR SURFACE,  
CONCRETE PAVERS AND LANDSCAPE TILES  
AREN'T IMMUNE TO THE EFFECTS OF TIME,  
MOTHER NATURE AND HEAVY USE.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION OUTLINES GENERAL PRACTICES FOR PROTECTING THE APPEARANCE AND PERFORMANCE OF ROCHESTER CONCRETE PRODUCTS' PAVERS, SLABS, AND WALL SYSTEMS. THESE GUIDELINES SUPPORT, BUT DO NOT REPLACE, THE RCP LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY.

IN ADDITION TO THE WARRANTY TERMS AND CONDITIONS THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES MAY IMPACT THE APPLICABILITY OF THE WARRANTY.

## 1. PRODUCT APPEARANCE & SITE VERIFICATION

RCP products are manufactured with natural aggregates and mineral pigments, which means color tone, texture, and shading will vary from unit to unit. These natural differences enhance the authentic look of concrete hardscapes.

To ensure expectations are met:

- Use printed or digital images only as broad references.
- Review actual product delivered to the site before installation.
- Confirm color, texture, and quantity at delivery; installation constitutes acceptance.

For best visual results, installers should pull units evenly from multiple pallets to blend color variation throughout the project.

## 2. INSTALLATION PRACTICES & MATERIAL COMPATIBILITY

All hardscape installations must follow industry standards (CMHA) and RCP's installation instructions. Proper storage, handling, compaction, and drainage all contribute to final performance.

Joint Materials:

- Joint sands or stabilizing materials should meet ASTM C144 or equivalent.
- When using polymeric sand, select products free of Portland cement, fly ash, or crushed limestone to help reduce hazing.
- Test any joint material in a small mock-up area before full installation.

RCP is not responsible for performance or aesthetic issues resulting from jointing materials or installation practices outside industry guidelines.

## 3. NATURAL PROCESSES & SURFACE CONDITIONS

Concrete is subject to several natural, expected phenomena:

### COLOR WEATHERING & EFFLORESCENCE

Efflorescence is a light, powdery deposit which may appear on the surface as minerals naturally migrate to the surface of the paver. This does not affect strength or durability and is common to all concrete. It may fade naturally or be removed with appropriate masonry cleaners.

### CONSTRUCTION DUST & ENVIRONMENTAL DEBRIS

Residue from cutting operations or jobsite contamination should be rinsed or brushed off before it dries. While it does not compromise structural performance, stains left to cure may alter appearance.

## 4. CLEANING, WASHING & ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Simple routine maintenance helps preserve the look of concrete hardscapes:

Clean with a garden hose and stiff-bristle brush.

- Avoid pressure washing unless explicitly allowed for the specific product.
- Only use cleaners approved for concrete and test them in a small, inconspicuous area first (approx. 4' x 4').
- Improper use of chemicals or equipment may permanently alter the finish.

RCP is not liable for damage caused by misuse of cleaning agents or aggressive washing techniques.

## 5. WINTER USE, DEICERS & SURFACE PROTECTION

For traction in winter months, use sand only.

Chemical deicers or fertilizers should be avoided, as many compounds—including sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, ammonium-based salts, and urea—can deteriorate concrete surfaces over time.

Snow removal equipment should use appropriate blade protection to avoid scuffing or marking.

Damage caused by deicing chemicals or improper snow removal is not covered by warranty.

## 6. USE LIMITATIONS & APPLICABILITY

These guidelines summarize best practices for care and maintenance. They do not imply suitability for every environment or application. Proper product selection, design, base preparation, and installation methods remain the responsibility of the purchaser and installer.

RCP is not liable for incidental or consequential damages arising from improper installation, handling, use, or maintenance that falls outside these recommendations.

Manufactured by:



7200 Broadway Ave. N, Rochester, MN 55906  
Phone: 507-288-8850  
[rochesterpcp.com](http://rochesterpcp.com)

©Copyright 2026. All Rights Reserved. This information has been prepared for the benefit of customers interested in Rochester Concrete Products. It was reviewed carefully prior to publication. Rochester Concrete Products assumes no liability for its accuracy or completeness. Final determination of the suitability of any information or material for the use contemplated, or for its manner of use, is the sole responsibility of the user. 126

