

## THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

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Decorative rock has become a staple in landscaping applications because of its durability, practicality and beauty. With numerous different types of stones available for purchase it's possible for homeowners to find decorative rocks that will bring their property to life.

In sizes ranging from gravel to large boulders, decorative rock can be purposed in a wide variety of ways so that you get the most value from your landscaping materials. With so many different decorative rock options available to you it may seem challenging to select the perfect stones for your property.

Braen Supply is one of the largest suppliers of decorative gravel in NJ, NY, PA and CT. We pride ourselves on our consistent quality and excellent customer service. Our staff is extremely knowledgeable about decorative gravel and stones and can't wait to help you start your next project.

To help you create the perfect landscape, this guide will break down everything you need to know about landscaping with decorative stone as a homeowner.



## THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

## DELAWARE RIVER ROCK



#### Maintenance

One of the best things about river rock is that it is extremely long lasting and durable.

After installing river rocks you will not need to worry about replacing them until many years into the future.

They require virtually no maintenance, so you are free to simply enjoy the beauty that they bring to your landscape.

#### **Best Uses**

- Larger stones can stand alone for decorative purposes, whereas smaller pebbles can be used to define borders, enhance other features or to fill empty areas where grass is either not present or is not practical.
- A growing number of gardeners are making the decision to abandon traditional mulch for other alternatives. Stones, like Delaware river rocks, are a great solution as they are long lasting, weather resistant and highly attractive.
- It's both the smooth texture and beautiful coloration of Delaware river rocks that make them an excellent choice for incorporating walkways and pathways into your property
- The construction of a dry river or creek beds can look absolutely beautiful in any landscape. Larger Delaware river rocks can be used to create the banks or edging to the creek bed, with smaller pebbles being used to simulate the waters within it.

Image courtesy of creativedesignsco.com



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## **GOOSE EGG STONES**



#### Maintenance

Goose Egg Stones need minimal maintenance. When used for paths and patios the most that will need to be done is raking them back in to place from time to time.

Goose Egg Stones will maintain their shades of white and tan for a long period of time without any maintenance from you.

Over time you may need to add some stones to your landscape to add a refreshed look and feel.

#### **Best Uses**

- The most common sizes for goose egg stones are  $\frac{3}{4}$ " - 6"+.
- As these stones are shaped differently from one another they draw more visual interest and are excellent for enhancing the decor of a residential or commercial landscape.
- Highly attractive, durable and practical, 3/4" goose egg stones are frequently used for paths, edging, water features, drainage and tree circles.
- You can use 3/4"-2" goose egg stones with nearly any type of property. These decorative rocks are easily recognized for their smooth and rounded shape paired with a natural color palette featuring shades of white, tan, beige and gray.
- Instead of using traditional mulch, some gardeners enjoy using 3/4"-2" goose egg stones. This offers an interesting look while providing a mulch that will maintain healthy soil levels.



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## MEXICAN BEACH PEBBLES



#### Maintenance

While mulch needs to be replaced frequently, Mexican beach pebbles are long lasting and are very low maintenance if used instead.

By using Mexican beach pebbles as a lawn replacement, it cuts down on lawn maintenance due to the fact that this type of decorative stone requires minimal maintenance.

#### **Best Uses**

- Mexican beach pebbles can be used to beautify pathways, terraces and other landscaping features for homes, hospitals, civic centers and other places of business.
- Some home and business owners make the decision to replace their grass and trade it in for a property that is fully composed of Mexican beach pebbles.
- These stones can be used as the edging or base of ponds and streams, in fountains, in pools or even as a part of a man-made water cascade.
- Rooftop gardens have grown in popularity over the few past years, creating a unique and "zen" space for individuals to enjoy nature. Mexican beach pebbles are excellent for hardscaping these areas or creating paths.

Image courtesy of flls.net



## PEA GRAVEL



#### Maintenance

Pea gravel's rounded edges make it easy to shovel and rake, which makes maintenance and dispersing the gravel an easy process.

Over time you may need to add additional pea gravel to your pathways or walkways as some of it may become displaced due to regular travel or weather conditions.

Outside of those minor maintenance needs, homeowners love pea gravel due to it's relatively easy maintenance requirements.

#### **Best Uses**

- Pea gravel is frequently used in playgrounds, pathways and driveways because of how effectively it fills spaces and the visual appeal it provides.
- Pea gravel is also a more cost-effective method for driveways and walkways than asphalt and concrete options.
- Due to its weight, pea gravel will not wash away during storms and is effective in areas where water tends to pool, when used in combination with drainage solutions.
- The material is typically put down two inches deep and various edging materials are used to keep it from spilling into other areas.



## **RED ROCK**



#### Maintenance

The beauty of red rock is that they don't wash away during storms and can act as the perfect mulch replacement.

Because these decorative stone are so functional and sturdy, they are extremely easy to maintain.

After a season or two you may need to add new red rock (barn red) to provide a fresh red color to your landscape as the color will fade over time.

Image courtesy of VictorianHomeRestoration.com

#### **Best Uses**

- Red stones can be used in a variety of landscape designs and can become an eye-drawing element of your landscape. You will often hear it referred to as barn red.
- 3/8" red rock in particular is popular for use in walking paths, patios and as a mulch replacement.
- Red rocks are often used for mulch replacement in part because of the visual appeal it provides, as well as the shape of stone and its ability to act as a form of erosion control
- 3/4" red rocks are the preferred size for driveways and walkways. They are popular in these areas as they provide effective erosion control and create a design and appeal that people don't often see.



## **RIVER ROCK**



#### **Maintenance**

Regardless of the size of river rocks, they are incredibly easy to maintain.

When being used as edging or as decorative landscaping, river rocks may need to be rakes or adjusted back into place from time to time.

River rocks last many years and don't need to be replaced often.

#### **Best Uses**

- River rock comes in a variety of shapes and sizes and can range from 3/8" to 10"+.
- Two of the most common uses for 3/8" river jack is for walkways and pathways due to its smooth texture.
- 1" river rocks are the preferred size for lawn replacement, erosion control, edging, paths and walkways and water features.
- 1" to 3" river jack is the perfect option for creating dry river beds to complement your landscape and water features.
- 4" to 8" river rock provides the perfect opportunity to create the water features of your dreams. Adding a variety of water features based on 4" to 8" river rock will draw the attention of everyone you know.

Image courtesy of Indulgy.com



## WHITE MARBLE CHIPS



#### Maintenance

These stones which are white, off-white or gray in color feature a glittery sheen that seems to sparkle in the sun.

Not only is this very attractive to the eyes of passersby, but it also proves to be very useful in reflecting the sun's light and regulating temperatures throughout the property. These stones are very practical and easy to maintain.

#### **Best Uses**

- White marble chips are one of the hottest decorative stones available.
  Homeowners and businesses alike are incorporating them into various different aspects of their landscapes.
- Instead of working with traditional organic mulch, white marble chips can be used to control soil temperature and moisture levels without attracting pests or decomposing over time.
- White marble chips are perfect for creating paths and walkways throughout your property. The stones are also optimal for foot traffic, being heavy enough that they aren't easily scattered and remain comfortable to walk upon.
- The reflective properties of white marble chips make them a great companion to your home's water features.

Image courtesy of www.visionarylandscapes.net



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## YELLOW "JERSEY SHORE" GRAVEL



#### Maintenance

Yellow round gravel requires very little maintenance.

At most, you'll have to rake the gravel level if it is driven or walked on frequently.

You should replace or add to the yellow gravel in specific areas as needed. This may be due to certain areas thinning out because of extensive use.

#### **Best Uses**

- Yellow gravel is commonly know as Jersey Shore Gravel as we know the stones from our times down the shore.
- It is perfectly suited for establishing garden paths, trails and walkways for homes, businesses, and municipal properties.
- We've seen many homeowners use it to construct a beautiful, durable and lowmaintenance driveway.
- These stones are well suited for use in home gardens and for improving drainage around a property.
- Because of its unique look and bright coloration, yellow round gravel can draw the attention of friends and family.
- As an alternative to sand, some homeowners choose to use stones, like yellow round Jersey Shore gravel in their children's home play areas.

Image courtesy of CaritasPR.org



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## DELIVERY INFORMATION



Braen Supply has bulk landscape & construction material delivery available to homeowners, contractors, cities, townships, schools, religious establishments and universities. Our drivers are experienced and will do their best to accommodate your delivery requests.

While our core service area for landscape material bulk deliveries is in New Jersey, depending on the quantity, we deliver in bulk throughout the entire Northeast. Our core delivery area in New Jersey:

Bergen County, Passaic County, Hudson County, Essex County, Union County, Middlesex County, Somerset County, Morris County and Sussex County (Northern New Jersey and Central New Jersey)

Our core delivery area in New York:

NYC, Manhattan, Brooklyn, The Bronx, Queens, Staten Island, Long Island, Rockland County, Orange County and Westchester County



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Landscaping with decorative rock is one of the simplest and most effective ways to make your property stand out. Remove all of the guesswork from your next landscaping project by following this guide to improving your home's curb appeal with decorative rock.

Braen Supply is one of the largest suppliers of decorative rock across all of NJ, NY, PA and CT. We have passionate and knowledgeable staff available at all times to discuss your project at length.

Being a direct supplier of stones, gravel and other landscaping materials and tools, you can expect the best prices and support. With the help of the best decorative gravel supplier in NJ & NY you can transform your property into the stunning landscape of your dreams.

