

Lanterns + Foundations

Almost accident with Lanterns

The catholic colleague Franz Riederer from the region of Passau reported to the EFAS about rusted Lantern-stands that almost caused an accident. He kindly gave the permission to use the pictures you see.

Course of events:

During a conversation **somebody just lightly leaned against a Lantern** that stood on the church property. **The Lantern collapsed** thereafter because it was strongly corroded at the foot-end. Thankfully no one got hit by the falling Lantern.

Afterwards every Lantern was thoroughly investigated. It has become obvious that other Lanterns were also very rusty at bottoms end and not standing securely enough. It has been suggested that the reason for this weakness is the use of salt (winter) combined with a faulty concrete-foundation. **Aggressive brine** was being collected around the Lantern-foot, not flowing off and so causing the damage.

Now during the repairing it was being made sure that the lanterns were receiving a **baffle-painting** and the **concrete-foundations** were being made in such a way that they could not collect rain any more. We recommend you look after your own Lantern and see if they show any similar signs! As you can see, even fire-zinced metal-stands can corrode gradually. The bottom-point is especially susceptible and often not in focus, since for instance plants cover up the Lantern-stand on the ground.

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