

ON CAPE COD At Home

Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Cape Cod

GREAT BACKYARD *Escapes*

Deck Bar • Poolside Barn • Patio Trends ... and more!

Elevated Elegance
on Scraggy Neck

PROFILE:
A Kitchen Queen
*reimagines the
heart of the home*

SUMMER 2021

70 Years of Building Community
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Great BACKYARD ESCAPES

Homeowners create comfortable outdoor entertaining spaces with pools, firepits, outdoor kitchens, a deck bar—even a rustic poolside barn.

BY CAROL K. DUMAS

In 2020, the cancellation of travel plans and spending more quality time at home inspired many people to create backyard sanctuaries—a place to get away with family in a comfortable and safe environment. Building companies, landscape architects and contractors have been extremely busy ever since, fulfilling homeowners' wish lists for ultimate outdoor havens.

“We’re seeing lots of pools, pool cabanas with heaters, outdoor patios, gas fireplaces and firepits—even putting greens,” says the team at Jaxtiner Landscaping LLC. “In the 28 years in the green industry, we’ve never seen anything like this!”

Jon Philips, construction manager and field supervisor at McPhee Associates of Cape Cod, says many homeowners are creating more porches, deck areas and swimming pools to enjoy their staycation lifestyles. “The exterior of the home is now considered an extension of the living space, rather than just a backyard,” says Philips.

Backyard Goals:
This ultimate outdoor haven in Orleans is the perfect space to host a summer gathering for family and friends.



Builder: Cape Associates
Landscape Designer:
 Kimberly Mercurio
Architect: Peter McDonald Architects
Photographer: Michael Conway

A modern poolside barn frames the property and creates an inviting space for entertaining. Cape Associates—celebrating their 50th anniversary this year—salvaged the barn’s original beams, which were later turned into repurposed outdoor furniture.



Rustic Yet Modern UNIQUE POOL HOUSE BARN

The homeowners of this Orleans house initially wanted to turn a barn on their property into a multipurpose pool house/garage to accompany a new pool terrace and stow their Jeep. In the end, the barn was not able to be saved, but it served as a design inspiration for Peter McDonald of Peter McDonald Architects and builders Cape Associates. McDonald created a rustic yet modern poolside barn, primarily used to frame the property, connect the backyard and the home, and create a space for entertaining. Inside, the new pool house barn features a large salvaged soapstone sink the homeowner bought at a Boston restoration store—a unique item that jumpstarted the entire project.

Cape Associates salvaged the barn’s original beams, which were later turned into repurposed outdoor furniture. The structure itself is cedar, shiplap, exposed rafters and studs and non-slip concrete flooring. It incorporates oversized hardware, minimalist lighting and barn doors—custom built in the Cape Associates’ millwork shop. Some of the doors are double, French-door style, others sliding—but all with generous openings.” You can drive a tractor into this barn and put hay in the loft,” says McDonald.



The pool barn structure includes cedar, shiplap, exposed rafters and non-slip concrete flooring. It incorporates oversized hardware, minimalist lighting and barn doors—custom built in the Cape Associates’ millwork shop.

The Ultimate Escape

BEACHFRONT BACKYARD



Builder:
McPhee Associates

Photographer:
Amber Jane
Photography

Set on an idyllic, beachfront lot along Dennis' South Side, this Cape Cod retreat was once a two-story duplex, rented seasonally, before the new homeowners took ownership. Purchased for its location and unobstructed views of Nantucket Sound, the homeowners tasked McPhee Associates with the challenge of creating a new home on a smaller lot; one that came with a myriad of regulations and restrictions. When building new, the home had to be constructed on pilings 14 feet above ground level due to coastal dune requirements, as well as the challenges of construction in a flood zone and conservation area. The result? A brand new, multi-level family home with indoor/outdoor access throughout and a footprint made to entertain.

Designed around the family's need for four bedrooms and a sizable amount of living space, the home includes a great room with multiple panel sliding glass doors and easy access to the gourmet kitchen, which features quartz countertops and custom cabinetry. Overlooking one of the back decks is a folding NanaWall window, opening to a deck bar, making host duties and entertaining a pleasure.

A seamless flow from the inside out, the home was built with walls of windows and sliders throughout. With handsome decking made of Ipe, an exotic wood harder than mahogany, synthetic posts, cable railings and glass panels, the living spaces transcend seamlessly outside. Two private outdoor showers and custom foot wash complete the exterior, allowing for those easy, laid-back beach days the homeowners desired.



Beachfront Bliss: A brand new, multi-level family home on Nantucket Sound in Dennis, with indoor/outdoor access throughout, features a footprint to entertain. Overlooking one of the back decks is a folding NanaWall window, which opens to a dream deck bar.



Close to Nature

INFINITY EDGE POOL



The homeowner for this West Bay summer home in Osterville wanted to simplify their existing pool area and seamlessly integrate the home's interior with the outdoors. The client also wanted to streamline access to the pool terrace, which had been previously accessed from a long ramp through a pool gate and fence that surrounded the pool area.

To accomplish this, the landscape construction team at Jaxtimer Landscaping LLC created a lounge area and dining space adjacent to the home's interior living room and kitchen. The infinity edge pool was positioned to the side of the home's two sets of large lift and slide doors to keep the primary view of West Bay unobstructed. A set of generously sized monolithic granite steps, which replicated the feel of marble, lead directly from the upper terrace to the pool terrace area supporting multiple pedestrian desire lines to allow for easy flow. The pool's interior color was selected to reflect the light qualities of West Bay's waters. The pool's outer weir edge was defined by a dark contrasting tile that, when viewed from the pool terrace, would recede into the grassy vegetation beyond and mimic the grasses edges of the adjacent bay.

The 23-by-45-foot pool also includes a sun shelf that allows use by multiple generations of family from toddlers to grandparents. A hot tub was located in the corner to provide a quick warmup on chillier Cape Cod days.

Builder/Landscape Construction:
E.J. Jaxtimer Builder, Inc.
and Jaxtimer Landscaping LLC

Landscape Design/Architect:
Bernice Wahler Landscapes

Staged Photos:
Meredith Hunnibell

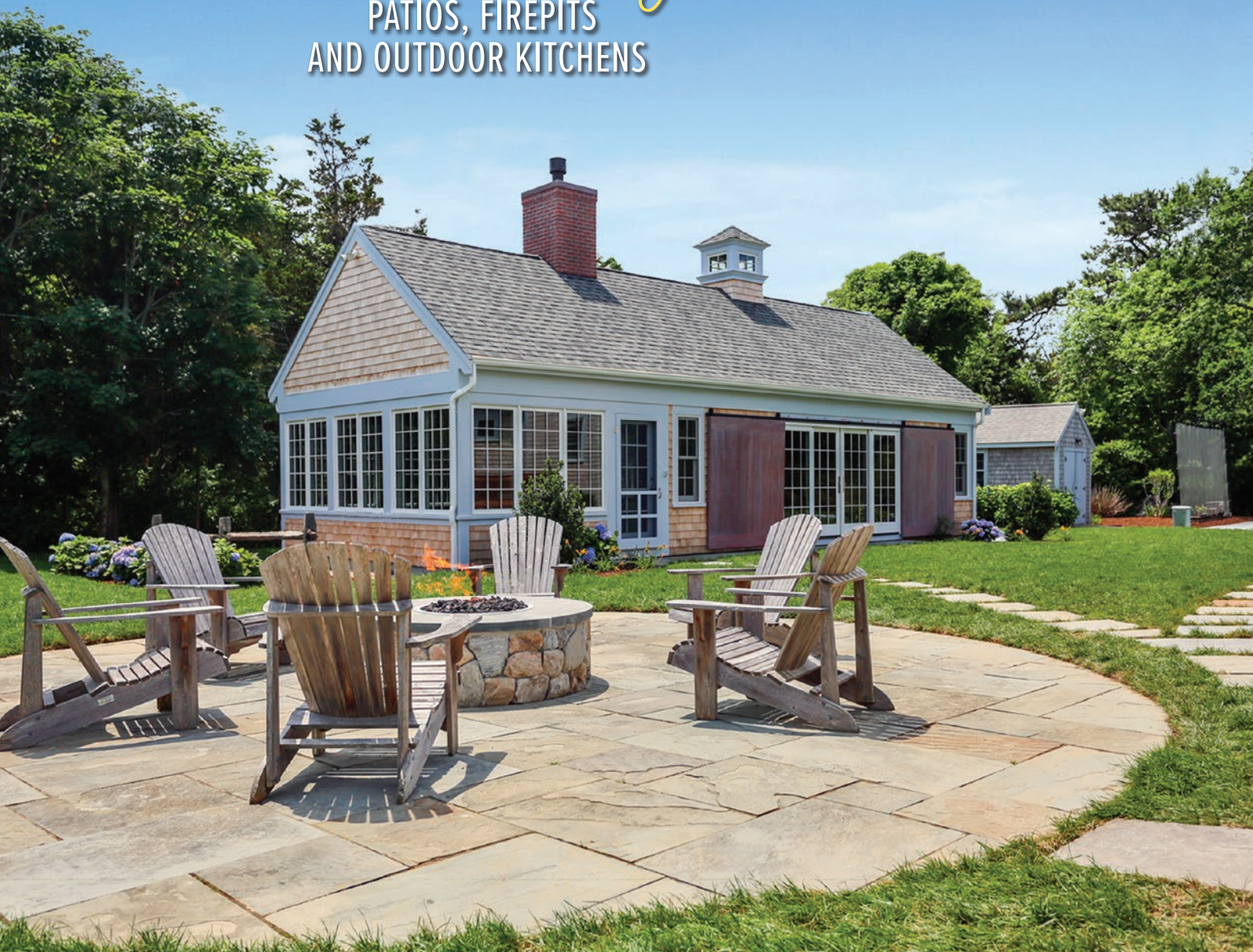


Embracing the Landscape: Monolithic granite steps mimic the feel of marble and the pool's interior color reflects the light qualities of West Bay's waters in Osterville. A lounge area and dining space, adjacent to the home's interior living room and kitchen, maximize outdoor entertaining opportunities.



Walk This Way

PATIOS, FIREPITS AND OUTDOOR KITCHENS



Stunning Stonework: Trends in paving have changed from small pavers and bricks to larger, slab-style stone, says Stonewood Products marketing manager Jason Hogan. If you're not a fan of wood-burning firepits, Stonewood has several great options for gas firepits as well.

Building materials and
outdoor living supplies:
Stonewood Products

Stonewood Products offers an outdoor showroom sure to inspire homeowners seeking to create a backyard oasis. Since 1997, this business has been a source for building materials and outdoor living supplies, including natural and reengineered stone from all over the world. Its flagship store in Harwich displays its stone wares on pallets scattered around the massive yard and also installed in different settings. Types of material are identified with signage so customers can get an idea of what a material looks like when it's used in a walkway, as steps or for a patio, for example. The outdoor showroom also displays furniture, fireplaces, firepits, water features and outdoor kitchens. It's so attractive that people have asked to have wedding receptions there.



Everblue pavers from Stonewood Products, installed at the Pelham House Resort in Dennis Port, replicates the look of natural bluestone but resists fading and staining.

Trends in paving have changed from small pavers and bricks to larger, slab-style, says Stonewood marketing manager Jason Hogan. Homeowners are also opting for a composite, low-maintenance paver called Everblue, which looks like natural bluestone, but resists fading, shaling and staining. But if you're into natural stone, consider the rustic look of antique granite boulders for steps and a multitude of granite and other natural stones.

Firepits can be simple and budget-friendly. Prefabricated metal versions fill the bill for the budget-conscious, but free-standing masonry fireplaces can elevate your outdoor space. Gas firepits and fireplaces even have remote control starters. Stonewood also offers kits that include metal fireboxes, which can then be covered with the stone of your choice. Cooking outdoors has reached a whole new level as home chefs seek high-end ranges. Massive stainless steel ranges and grills are often built in with masonry or cabinetry for a more finished look. Increasingly popular, says Hogan, are pizza ovens.



Above, a pagoda is an attractive alternative to an awning or large umbrella. Below, cooking outdoors has reached a whole new level as home chefs seek high-end ranges and grills built into the masonry or cabinetry. Both of these projects feature stone and pavers from Stonewood Products.





Vacation Vibes: This Chatham backyard showcases a uniquely shaped pool fanning out to a hot tub on one side and a fountain with a sculpture featuring three frolicking dolphins on another. The stone patio is made from Niagara blonde granite stones wet-laid into concrete.

Diving into Paradise

BACKYARD INSPIRED BY TROPICAL GETAWAYS

Creating a backyard oasis makes homeowners feel like they are always on vacation. This is especially true for a Chatham couple who drew on their tropical getaways at resorts in Hawaii and Southern California as inspiration for their project. They designed a backyard haven that includes a uniquely shaped pool fanning out to a hot tub on one side and a fountain with a sculpture featuring three frolicking dolphins on another, plus a firepit. Chaise lounges are accented with blue-patterned throw pillows around the curved stone patio, made from Niagara blonde granite stones wet-laid into concrete.

The project was overseen by Eastward Companies and required “a great deal of coordination” with Eastward, Andrew Garulay, RLA, of Yarmouthport Design Group; Mitchell Landscape Construction, Stonewood Products, Barrows Excavating and Shoreline Pools, says Eastward’s Project Manager Buzz Webb.

Beneath the stone is a hidden rain gutter system, which leads to a large underground concrete dry well. The gardens include a secret garden and many varieties of ornamental trees. Mature emerald green arborvitae and cedars were planted on the property line for privacy. There’s an outdoor kitchen as well.

“One of the homeowners is originally from Hawaii,” says Webb, “and dolphins have always held a special place in her heart.” 🐬

Project Manager: Eastward Companies

Design, construction and building materials: Yarmouthport Design Group, Mitchell Landscape Construction, Stonewood Products, Barrows Excavating and Shoreline Pools

Photography: Abby Grattan/Grattan Imaging