

Cape Cod

MAGAZINE

Outdoor Spaces

Kitchens, dining rooms,
showers and more!

Bursting With Color

Harwich garden gets dramatic makeover

Great Granola

Local makers share secrets to success

OUTDOOR LIVING: CREATING SPACES IN NATURE

BY VIVIAN SIEMPOS HAIDAS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KYLE J. CALDWELL,
RANDALL PERRY AND CHARLES MAYER

As New Englanders, it's not uncommon for us to count down the days until summer and to cherish every day of warm weather. Time spent outside on Cape Cod is precious and summer months are fleeting. In order to take full advantage, people are moving their living spaces outside. It's not necessarily a new concept, but these homeowners have gone a step further by adding kitchens, dining rooms and even living rooms. This trend is transforming backyards into entertainment spaces where nature is in full view.

This outside pavilion on the vineyard, open on all sides, contains living and dining spaces and a kitchen for the pool terrace. Photography by Charles Mayer





VINEYARD SERENITY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES MAYER

The beautiful bath house and adjoining pool pavilion on Martha's Vineyard were designed and built completely separate from the main house on the property. In fact, the house and barns were to undergo a significant renovation when the outdoor living space was created, allowing Jill Neubauer of Jill Neubauer Architects Inc. to work with a clean slate and have a completely autonomous space.

"I was given a great deal of architectural style freedom and allowed to do something modern and anchored," says Neubauer. Her clients asked her to create something that would take the focus away from the unattractive house on the property that would eventually be renovated. In doing so, she created a beautiful, serene design that blends harmoniously with the landscape.

The bath house and pool pavilion are located on a 35-acre equestrian farm. The bath house contains changing rooms, a bathroom and a prep kitchen while the

pavilion, open on all sides, contains living and dining spaces and a kitchen for the pool terrace. It is a dreamy space with curtains swaying in the summertime breeze and the infinity pool shimmering in the sunlight. As Neubauer pointed out, although it is an elegant space, it isn't precious. It's rugged and meant to weather. The tree columns have bronze lights that will patina, the countertops are Soapstone, and the kitchen faucet is made of cast bronze. Neubauer uses energy-efficient technologies, non-toxic material selections and sustainable products.

Neubauer explains that the nature of the materials and the design are fully integrated. The landscape and structures blend well and feel seamless. The quiet design of the structures lets the site and building work together. It's a true luxury retreat that gives a sense of being one with the earth.

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THE OUTDOOR SHOWER: A CAPE COD NECESSITY

The outdoor shower is an icon of summer living on Cape Cod. It's not baseball or the beach, but stepping into that open air shower after a day in the sun has to be right up there.

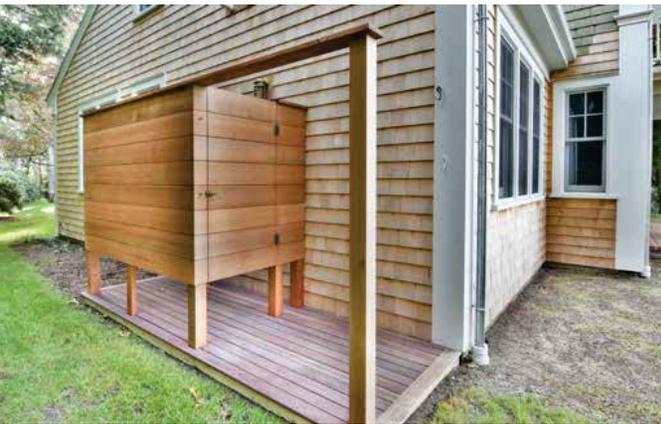
These two showers are very different. One showcases a minimalist approach with practical design and the other is more whimsical and fun, while also being functional.

A shower in West Falmouth was designed by Jill Neubauer Architects. The design is simple yet encompasses everything needed, including a place for towels and a clothesline. It is made of red cedar, which requires no maintenance and will

turn gray over time. The flooring is mahogany while the outdoor lights are solid brass from Shiplights of Marblehead. The contractor for the outdoor shower was Village Restoration of West Falmouth.

Neubauer may have said it best: "Clients have such deep, warm feelings of the Cape and outdoor showers really connect people with their landscape."

An Osterville shower by Polhemus Savery DaSilva is a more intricate design, as the structure serves many purposes. "The 'wave' or 'whale' shape was our idea in response to the client's interest in doing something whimsical and playful, something more interesting than a simple shed, but still within the tradition of garden structures," says John DaSilva. The four bays at the left end shroud air conditioning condensers while the middle four bays house garbage and recycling bins. The right-hand three bays house the shower and dressing area. When someone showers, they can look through the round window, the "eye," across the yard and see Osterville's West Bay. 



TOP LEFT: MEREDITH HUNNIBELL; BELOW: RANDALL PERRY

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