

# The Joy of Outdoor Living





# Life is better when we live it outside.

**Human beings are not just meant to survive. We're meant to thrive. But what is it that brings us joy and fulfillment? Much has been written on the subject, and many have yet to find the answer.**

I believe fulfillment is found in connection with others and our natural environment. Thoughtfully designed outdoor spaces facilitate these connections, offering us profound fulfillment and immense joy.

The best landscapes are extensions of indoor living spaces — extensions so natural that the transition is seamless. The ultimate goal being harmony between home, human and nature.

Living as much of life as possible in the great outdoors is more than just a choice, it's a lifestyle. The plethora of activities is incredible — we can cook, eat, relax, play, reflect, and along the way find those connections we so deeply crave.

This guide is meant to inspire you on your journey to find more fulfilling, joyful connections with each other and with nature. Enjoy!

With gratitude,

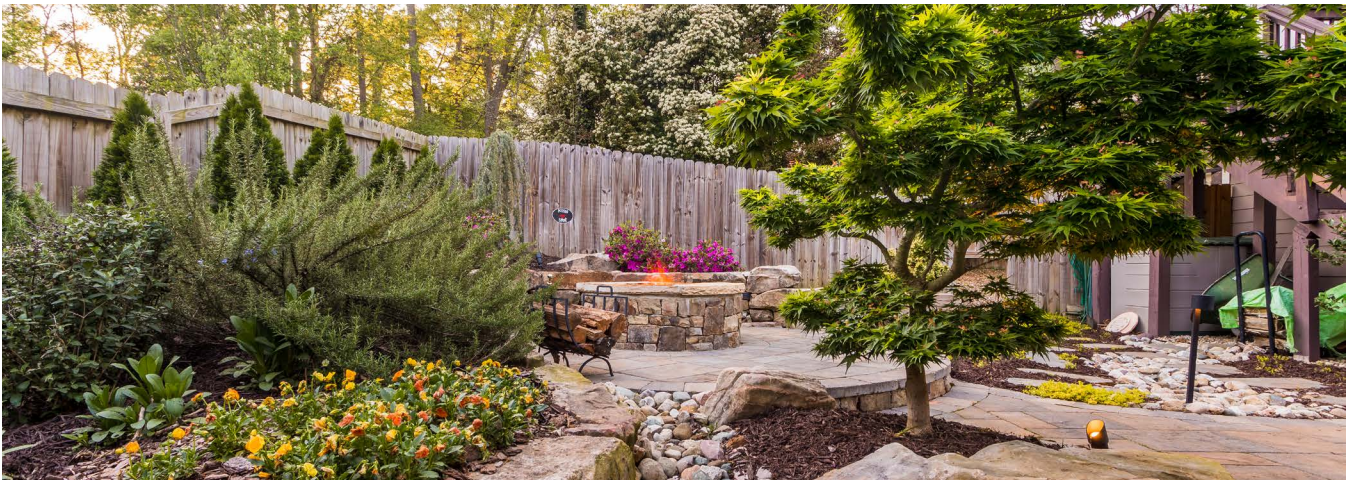
*Pam Dooley.*



Pam Dooley, Owner  
Plants Creative Landscapes







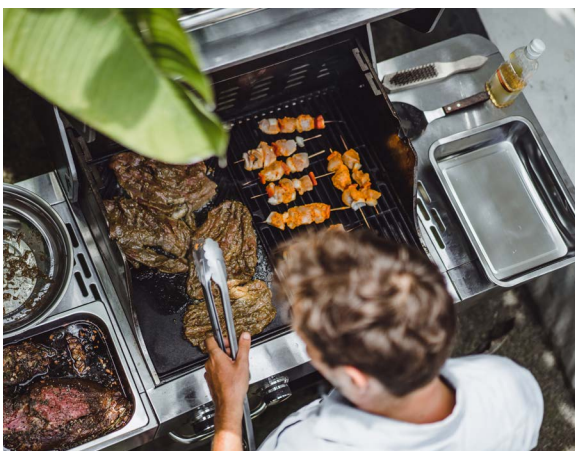


# Savor the sights, sounds, smells and flavors.

Inside the house, guests somehow always end up in the kitchen. You can recreate that same experience right in your backyard.

A well-designed outdoor kitchen gives you a space to prepare food and serve drinks while mingling with your guests. All of this without making a mess inside the house!

## The basics...



### Grills & barbecues

A standard for outdoor kitchens. If you're planning on doing any cooking outside, grilling is one of the best ways to do it.



### Sinks, storage & counter space

Prep whatever you want without running back inside. Ample counter space and sink areas are essential.



Keep food and drinks cool and ready for enjoyment at a moment's notice with an outdoor fridge.



## The upgrades...



### Kegeators

Pull your next pint from a tap installed directly into your stone counter. Kegeators are bar fridges specially designed to hold anywhere from one to three small kegs. Hook up a fresh keg and get pouring!



### Icemakers

If you're into cocktails, having ice on hand is a must. Stainless steel ice makers are very popular for entertainers!



*If you're cooking a lot of food, warming stations let you keep it all warm and keep cooking! Most come in drawers and buffet-style drop-in containers.*



## For the ultimate experience...



### Pizza Ovens

Making and cooking homemade pizza in a wood-fired oven will make it hard to ever go back to frozen, delivery or regularly-cooked pizza. Extremely hot temperatures cook the pizza quickly and efficiently, giving the crust just the right amount of crunch.



### Kamado grills & cookers

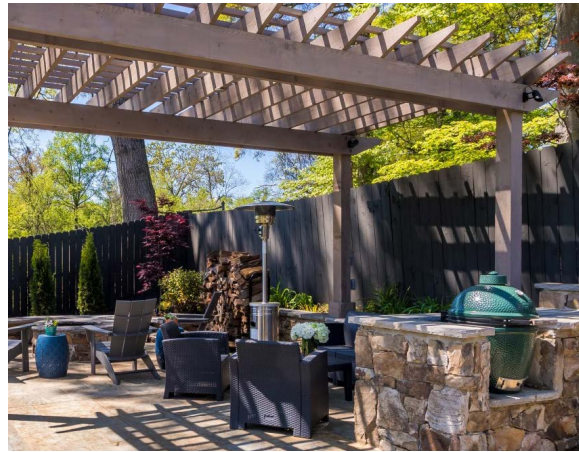
Combining a grill, an oven and a smoker all-in-one, the Kamado grill is a great option for the more adventurous cook. Two of our favorite brands are Big Green Egg and Kamado Joe.



# Connect with your loved ones.

We all dream about having a perfect backyard — a place to share stories and make memories with family and friends.

Outdoor living rooms, whether on a deck or patio, covered or uncovered, are where connections start and relationships get deeper.



## Outdoor living rooms

Outdoor living or family rooms aren't limited by structural constraints and can be designed to fit whatever feeling you're after — expansive, intimate, shaded or sunny.

## Decks & patios

Patios can serve as outdoor dining rooms, more relaxed hangout spaces or even a poolside sunbathing area. Dress it up with furniture and the right decor and you'll be dining and entertaining to your heart's content.



# Light up the night, get cozy and share stories.

Gathering around a warm fire is something ingrained in our culture. There are few things better than cozying up by the flames on a cool night enjoying drinks and good conversation.

Add in subtle and ambient landscape lighting and you'll be enjoying your outdoor space long after the sun sets.



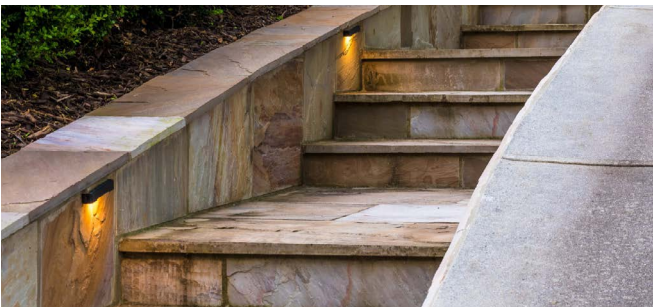
## Firepits

Firepits are compact and often circular in shape, so they can be comfortably enjoyed by everyone — from your significant other to your entire family and friends.



## Fireplaces

Fireplaces tend to be “hearths” complete with chimneys. In most cases, this means they can only be faced from one side. This can make them cozier and more intimate and an excellent focal point for outdoor rooms. Enjoy an open fire year-round instead of just on the nicer nights — rainy or windy weather won't affect it!



## Outdoor lighting

Keep the fun going after sunset with a carefully designed and integrated lighting system. Lighting makes your landscape more inviting and hospitable while also adding an extra layer of safety by reducing tripping hazards.

**Choosing between gas or wood-burning.** — Wood-burning firepits feel more authentic and the smoke will have that delightful “campfire” scent to it. But the fire is more difficult to start and the smoke can bother some people’s eyes. Gas-powered firepits burn easily and cleanly, with little smoke. They can be fueled either by propane tanks or your home’s natural gas, but the heat is less intense and they can cost more to run.





# Get out there and have some fun!

Whether you're an athletic family or you enjoy playing the occasional game, there's no better place to play than outdoors!

Get inspired by all the options... and then get ready to bring your family and friends together for some fun.



## Mini putt & putting greens

Nothing brings the family together like a mini-putt course. The amount of holes and difficulty can vary depending on how competitive you like to get. Simpler putting greens are also great for practicing your short game!



## Playgrounds & treehouses

If anything sparks lifelong childhood memories, it's the treehouse or playground out back. Perfect for your kids and grandkids!



## Outdoor games

Dream big! There are all sorts of games to play in your backyard. Here are some ideas...

- Bocce ball
- Baseball
- Lawn bowling
- Tennis
- Soccer
- Trampolines

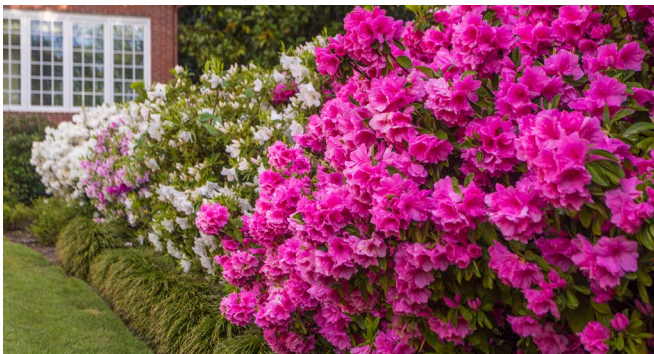


# Take some time to relax & reflect.



Gardens calm us down, give us space to reflect and soothe our souls. They also offer a beautiful, bright backdrop for parties and get-togethers.

The options are nearly endless when it comes to what you plant and where. Here are some of our favorite garden types!



## Native & pollinator gardens

Full to bursting with native, flowering plants, these gardens are a great habitat for pollinators. Wonderful for the environment, bright and vibrant, they provide year-round beauty.



## Edible gardens

Growing your own vegetables is one of the most rewarding hobbies you can have. Eat tomatoes off the vine, hand-pick your dinner's herbs or try your hand at roasting veggies on the grill!



## Rain gardens

Rain gardens are gardens designed and built with a basin underneath them. Downspouts from the roofs of houses, sheds or other roofed structures are directed toward the garden. When it rains, the water is collected and contained in the basin, allowing it to slowly absorb into the surrounding soil.



# Want some help caring for your space?

From specialized garden care to smart irrigation systems, battery-powered electric equipment and robotic mowing, Plants Creative Landscapes offers a fresh approach to keeping your property looking awesome.



## Full-Service Property Care

Sit back and leave the hard work to us.



## Automowers®

A perfect lawn. Automated.



## Smart Irrigation

Save water, time and money.



## Smart Lighting & Audio

Set the mood with a single click.



For more info on our Property Care packages, visit [plantscreative.com/property-care](https://plantscreative.com/property-care)





Putting you in your landscape.

[plantscreative.com](http://plantscreative.com)

Atlanta, GA

Blue Ridge, GA

404.309.7175 | 706.723.8600