



Photo courtesy of Cipriano Landscape Design

Backyard Oasis

By Debra Maurer

When your kitchen and family room have you feeling boxed in, look to the outdoors. From pools and spas to pergolas and outdoor kitchens, your backyard gives you the space and ambiance to entertain and have fun. We interviewed the builders of several amazing backyards to give you the lowdown on the infinite possibilities.



Builder & Designer Cipriano Landscape Design



See p. 30–31 for another view of this project.

Project Location: Mahwah, New Jersey

Theme: Family-friendly entertainment

Goal: The clients wanted a tropical-themed place to relax and enjoy the outdoors, but they also needed a fun, interactive, and safe area for their kids to enjoy.

Design/Special Features: This custom project included a waterfall, pool, spa, patio, outdoor kitchen, cabana, dining area, and fireplace. The pool has a sunshelf, dive stone, and a waterslide, which provides hours of entertainment for children and adults! The soothing sounds of the waterfall and spa give guests an overall relaxing feeling. Having a grill, bar, kitchen, and fireplace outdoors makes poolside entertaining fun and easy.

Materials: Nature, beauty, and comfort were the inspiration for the selected materials. The outdoor kitchen, fireplace, and cabana were all finished with a thinstone veneer from Buechel Stone Corp. The pool coping was done in a 3-inch Gray Tennessee crab orchard, which continued through the patio. Natural stone mosaic was used for the waterline and as an accent on the steps, swimouts, and sunshelf. We used a dark gray marcasite plaster for the pool finish. The waterfall was done with Pennsylvania fieldstone boulders.

—Chris Cipriano, founder and president of Cipriano Landscape Design