

Summer 2011

Dockside

Life by the Lake

Boldly going
outside:
Outdoor
living trends

Dockside Edibles:
Local and
Organic

Season Preview:
Find your fun
close to home
this summer

Lake Lifestyles

Boldly going



Outdoor Living T

A photograph of an outdoor patio area. In the foreground, there are two dark wood armchairs with orange cushions and a matching square table. One chair has a striped throw pillow. In the background, there are stone steps leading up to a house with a white door. Another orange-cushioned sofa is visible on the steps. The patio is paved with irregular stone tiles.

outside

trends: Summer 2011

By Sarah Tieck

Life is sweet when you can be outside, soaking up the sun's rays. Take full advantage of your outdoor landscape this summer and make effective use of your outdoor space. Here are some new ideas for 2011.

Sit back and enjoy the view

A row of Adirondack chairs facing a lakeshore perfectly says "ah, life on the lake." With that in mind, some people are breaking away from ever-popular outdoor rooms and creating simpler spaces that make the most of the setting, says Sarah Kinbar, of goodgardenideas.com and former editor-in-chief of Garden Design. "The trend I am seeing in outdoor rooms is the 'outdoor un-room,'" she explains. "Highly-structured outdoor rooms have been popular for the past 10 years, but we are turning a corner and portable seating areas with unfettered views are the new big thing."

This approach is accessible and low maintenance, capitalizing on flexibility and the idea of making the most of what you have. Kinbar says it can be as simple as placing a hammock near a tree; or two chaise lounges or a patio table at a particularly pretty spot in your yard. "There are no hedges or other garden elements between you and nature. It's just you, your seat, and the view."



Photo courtesy: Homecrest

Firepits are hot—yes, pun intended—and they come in all shapes and sizes, including the one on pages 16 and 17, made by Wadena, Minn.-based Homecrest. Patio furniture remains a staple of outdoor living too, including the table and chairs pictured below, also made by Homecrest. Visit Homecrest.com for more information.

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
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Shakopee, MN

Earthy, natural colors are popular for a variety of products, including these pillows from the Perennials collection fabrics by Restoration Hardware.



Photo courtesy: Restoration Hardware

Think GIY—Grow-it-Yourself

There's nothing quite like snipping a sprig of rosemary to season your grilled chicken and serving it alongside a salad of carrots, cherry tomatoes, romaine, and basil that you grew in your own garden plot. This may be as simple as some potted herbs on the deck or a more elaborate garden in the yard.

"Edible gardening is huge now," Kinbar says. "People love growing their own grub, but it takes a lot of work. There's no easy way to grow vegetables — daily attention is required, and people are willing to make that investment."

Interestingly, the combination of this focus on edible gardens and our busy lives means less time for other parts of the garden. "That time spent in the veggie garden takes away from other gardening activities, so there is more open-mindedness about low-maintenance outdoor living," Kinbar says.

Go natural

Earthy is all the rage. Kinbar points out that bird, flower, and other nature-inspired images are popular on clothes, textiles, and a huge range of products.

And, Shar Seter, design director of Homecrest Outdoor Living, the Wadena, Minn.-based patio furniture manufacturer, points to neutrals as a base for pops of color such as greens, yellows, oranges, and purples. "For 2011, warm grays are the new neutral," she says. "Soft gray allows the consumer to place vibrant colors or subtle colors on seating pieces that match their personality."

Durable, all-weather fabrics that can hold up outdoors remain popular, but every year

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