

Create another room in your own backyard

In an increasingly hectic and unsettled world, where 'getting there' is no longer half the fun, Canadians are going home again. More time spent at home means more effort goes into creating a comfortable place to reconnect with family and friends.

"But homeowners aren't limiting their efforts to just their home interiors," says Deborah Boland, spokesperson for LeisureScapes and host of Backyard Pleasures. "Many Canadians are creating magical retreats and unforgettable memories in their backyards."

The backyard is often the biggest 'room' in your house. But in order to feel more at home in your backyard, you need to make your backyard feel more like home. To transform your backyard, consider what your family likes to do, the look you want to create and the resources you can invest.

Many homeowners are using new ideas to help them create elaborate outdoor living spaces as detailed and beautifully decorated as the inside of their homes. Like houses, backyards are being divided into different areas, each with its own mood or function. Here are just a few examples:

- Secret retreats or quiet areas to find serenity and solitude, to read, contemplate nature, or just appreciate your surroundings
- Backyard kitchens complete with everything you need to feed your family or entertain friends (including multi-use barbecues, refrigerators and dishwashers)
- A backyard getaway with a spa or hot tub where you can soak your tension away

Inspiration for backyard entertaining can

come from many places. If you have a hot tub, throw a spa party. Give your guests thick, soft, towels when they arrive, add some music and serve healthy appetizers. For an exotic Moroccan theme, drape vibrant jewel-toned fabrics over a canopied tent. Add lanterns, pillows and accent the table with accessories of burnished metals, dark wood and beads. Or bring some nautical style to a seafood barbecue by setting your table with netting, shells and lifebuoys.

The possibilities for better backyard living are endless. You just need to imagine them and then express yourself.

Want to learn more? Check out www.leisure-scapes.com or call 1-866-907-6066 for a LeisureScapes dealer near you.

—News Canada



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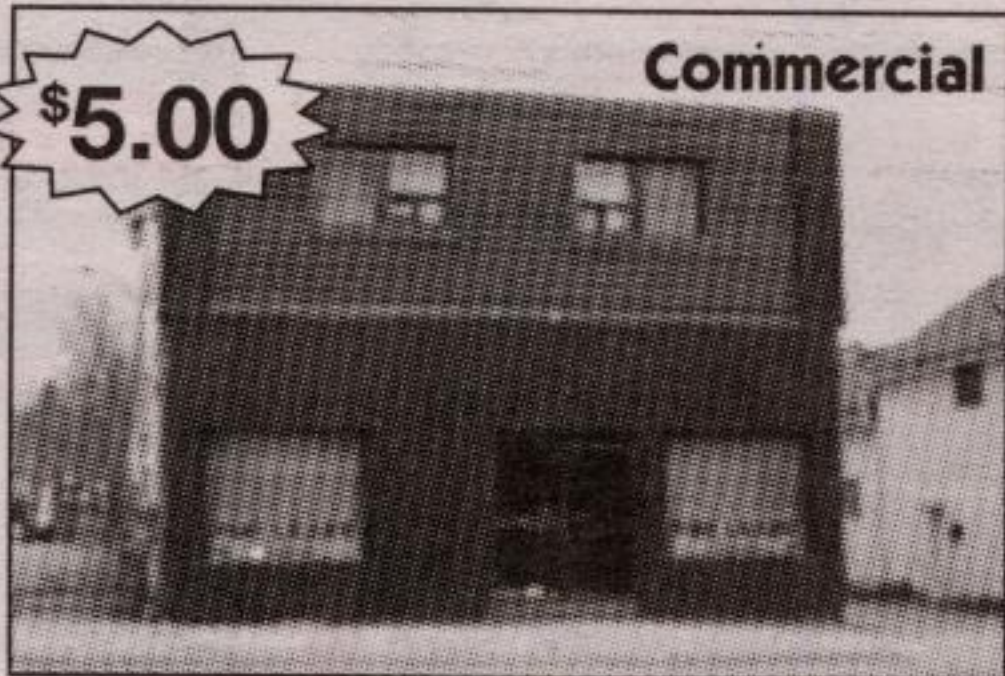


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