

Your Yard

Backyarding Trends in 2022:

TurfMutt Foundation Predicts Americans Will Continue to Expand Outdoor Living

(NAPS)—“Backyarding”—the trend to move indoor activities outdoors that was made popular during the pandemic—is here to stay and will continue to expand in 2022, according to the TurfMutt Foundation, an environmental education and stewardship program that encourages outdoor living and caring for green spaces.

“Backyarding is a way of life now,” says Kris Kiser, president and CEO of the Foundation and its parent organization, the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI). “Homeowners spent lots of time, money and effort over the last eighteen months improving their backyards to make them an extension of their homes so they could work, cook, exercise and even vacation outdoors. We believe people will continue to ‘backyard more’ in the coming year and beyond.”

The TurfMutt Foundation predicts the following backyarding trends for 2022:

Lines between the indoors and the outdoors continue to blur. Doors and windows will be opened to the great outdoors and more people will enjoy breakfast or a nightcap on the deck. Decorating choices will marry the outside and the inside, with colors and tones that provide more visual connection between indoor areas and the backyard, for a seamless transition.

Offices turn to the outdoors. There will be no need to turn to technology to create a virtual backdrop for video calls. Trees, flowers, bushes and other plants are a beautiful video call background. Privacy screens, electrical outlets and Wi-Fi extenders become more common.

Kids (and adults) spends more time outside learning. Kids will take online classes or do homework under the shade of a tree, in an outdoor classroom at school or at a patio or picnic table. They brush up on STEM concepts (TurfMutt’s free lesson plans can help) by planting and studying flowers, bugs and weather.

Al fresco dining becomes the norm. Grills, pizza ovens and overhead lighting with seating will make many homes outdoor eateries for families and neighbors. Interest in outdoor kitchens, pergolas, shade sails and landscaping will define and enhance outdoor dining.

Business deals get cooked up in backyards. While socializing around



People are expecting to spend more time than ever in their backyards in the coming year.

fire pits and watching the kids play soccer on the lawn, adults will have the informal conversations that used to happen in other venues. Games of croquet and cornhole could turn easily into business networking opportunities.

The backyard is the first place people turn to for relaxation and stress relief. Yoga, hammocks, reading nooks, calming water features and more add spa-like features to the backyard. More people plant with peace of mind at heart, adding colors that make them feel good, while aiming for sensory or emotional connections.

Outdoor entertainment evolves. Movie projectors with sound systems and outdoor screens turn the yard into a theater under the stars. Expect to see fire pits, outdoor games and more that enhance outdoor recreation.

Homeowners will plant with wildlife in mind. Knowing the backyard is a habitat for pollinators, insects, birds and other wildlife, homeowners likely will choose plants, trees and shrubs that nurture and support wildlife—delighting in discovering them.

Pampering pets only increases. Fencing, sandpiles for digging, doghouses and even agility courses for pets to enjoy will become more common.

More people discover their backyarding personality types and design a yard that matches their outdoor lifestyles. They will map out their yards, take an inventory of tools and equipment available to create and maintain their dream and then work hard to create a defined backyard that meets their needs over the coming year.

To learn more about creating the yard of your dreams, visit TurfMutt.com.

Did You Know?

“Backyarding”—the trend to move indoor activities outdoors—is here to stay and will continue to expand in 2022, according to the TurfMutt Foundation, an environmental education and stewardship program that encourages outdoor living and caring for green spaces. Learn more at TurfMutt.com.

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