





Decks

For a more defined outdoor living area, adding a deck can be just the thing – new, mind the added value it gives your home. If you already have one, then you know the perks.

Before you start planning the party schedule, realize that it's up to you to keep your deck party worthy. It's not maintenance-free, by any means, just like your kitchen floor needs cleaning and occasional TLC, so does your deck.

"One of the biggest mistakes homeowners and contractors make is not putting a preservative on immediately after installation. The preservative helps minimize dimensional changes and should be re-applied every one to two years. It's also important to have it cleaned and treated. A caveat with cleaning is to not use too much pressure – it can actually weaken the surface if there's too much pressure or if the pressure is too close to the deck surface," said Kurt Peterson, deck designer for Kellogg Construction The Deck Specialist in Canton, GA. "Even wood alternatives need yearly maintenance, sometimes, more than wood does."

For decks built close to the ground, cover the dirt underneath with a polyethylene barrier to avoid moisture damage. Replace any damaged or rotting boards immediately and keep the space between boards clear of debris.

So what's stopping you? Get out there and turn that bare backyard into the perfect outdoor space for everyday living or occasional entertaining and end your days of enjoying the neighbors. Who knows... you could have the most desirable backyard in the neighborhood!

MORE INFORMATION

RPM Turf and Tractor: 770-534-1888

Kit City: 1-800-665-6263 or www.kitcity.com

A Patio Outlet:

859-523-0324 or www.apatiooutlet.com

Oak Levers: 770-536-8917

Dreamscapes Pools and Spas:

1-866-POOL-123 or www.georgiadreamscapes.com

Atlanta Pools Inc.: 770.923.1989 or www.atlantapools.com

Kellogg Construction – The Deck Specialist:

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