

OUTSIDE

SARAH & COREY CLARK
3630 OGLEBAY DRIVE



How long have you lived at Magnolia Point?

We have lived in Magnolia Point since we built our house and moved in, Sept 2016.

This was obviously an ambitious project, a 'double' outdoor kitchen and inground pool. What was here when you started?

Just a backyard. We made the decision in April/May of 2022 to put in a pool. After 3 different quotes on the pool, we settled on our builder in June 2022 and they immediately pulled permits and after HOA approval, went to work right away. They started digging in July and slowly cruised through the whole process. After the pool was started, we worked on finding a company for the outdoor kitchen.



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What were the engineering, drainage, logistics, and permitting, obstacles that challenged the project?

Everything from the pool to the landscaping and the unique kitchen(s) was thought out and something I had drawn up in my head. The pool builder and enclosure contractor did a great job working with me in getting our design just right. Additionally, each project had a couple change orders in getting these implemented right away. For the pool, it was adding tile to the steps and hot tub, rebar and footers around the patio and extra concrete for a parking pad. The outdoor kitchen started as a small 10x10 covering but eventually grew to the unique shape and size that it is now. Additionally, we added lights, backsplash, and used extra pool tile left over to give a nice additive color to the kitchen to tie everything together. Even the granite contractor

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threw some extra granite into the project to make it look just right. When we built the house, under our covered patio, we had planned for the future and already had plumbing stubs included so it was very easy for the enclosure contractor to add the sink, ice maker, and cool to the plumbing system.

What do you like most about the space?

We sometimes have a hard time expressing our sheer fondness for our new backyard. Before, all we had was grass and we spent some time outside, but not a lot. We actually spent more time in the front yard with the kids and let the dogs run the backyard. Now, it is hard to tear ourselves away. All the kids spend their time in the back, we eat most of our dinners together under the patio, listening to the waterfall and for me, I don't have to wheel my grill in and out from the patio to keep it protected. We have everything we need for ourselves and to entertain right out of the back door. We usually come home from work and school and immediately get in the pool or at least, spend time together on the patio. It's absolutely wonderful.



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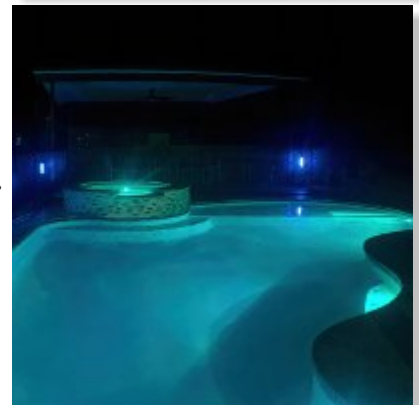


The seasons obviously can affect your use, how might you adapt to them?

Even with the different “seasons” we might experience here, we have a covered patio attached to the house that we can use anytime of the year. Whether it’s raining, hot, cold or anything in between, the covered patio works great for eating or visiting with family and friends, watching TV or sports or just relaxing. The automated screen wall protects us from rain and bugs year around. The covered cooking area is perfect to shield from sun or rain and the exact placement of the roof provides plenty of shade anytime after 1pm.

What might you want to add to your outdoor space, or change later?

I can’t imagine needing to change anything in the future. All the landscaping was designed to give privacy and remain green year round. We put down multiple layers of weed matting and covered everything in rock around the entire house so the landscaping is very low maintenance and user friendly. The back patio has everything we need with water, ice maker, fridge, trash receptacle, and a drop cooler for drinks plus plenty of storage. The cooking area has a built in ledge for my Big Green Egg, a side propane burner, and a gas grill with storage and another trash receptacle. With additional storage underneath the 6 person sit up bar, I can’t imagine needing anything else to our back patio oasis.



Additionally, our “Lettuce Grow” plant and herb garden has started to provide us with 36 different types of lettuce, vegetables, and herbs that we use for cooking on a regular basis. It is a self contained, low maintenance, and upright for easy pickin’!



Photos: C. Clark

