

Cedarbrook Outdoor Design/Build Marks 20 Years in Outdoor Living

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The family-owned design/build firm reaches two decades of custom decks, porches, patios, and outdoor living projects across central Maryland.

Cedarbrook Outdoor Design/Build, a family-owned and family-operated design/build firm, has reached its twentieth year in business, marking two decades of designing and building custom outdoor living spaces across central Maryland. What began with a focus on custom decks has grown into a full-service outdoor living practice spanning porches, patios, hardscapes, and complete backyard environments.

The company was founded in 2006 and operates from 2303 Back Acre Cir in Mt Airy, serving Howard, Frederick, Carroll, and Montgomery counties. Owned and led by President Mike Arneson Jr., the firm has completed more than 1,500 projects over its first two decades.

Over twenty years, the company's scope has widened well beyond its original deck work. Where early projects centered on deck construction, the firm now delivers porches, patios, hardscapes, and outdoor kitchens as integrated parts of a single designed space, reflecting broader homeowner demand for complete outdoor living areas across central Maryland. The expansion has positioned the company as a single source for outdoor projects that once required several separate contractors.

"Reaching twenty years reflects two decades of work that started with decks and expanded across the full range of outdoor living," said Mike Arneson Jr., president of Cedarbrook Outdoor Design/Build. "The milestone marks how the company has grown from a deck builder into a design/build firm that handles porches, patios, and complete outdoor spaces."

The first two decades include national recognition. Cedarbrook received the 2023 YellaWood Deck Specialist of the Year award, which recognizes craftsmanship, project volume, and pressure-treated lumber expertise,

and earned placement on Remodeling Magazine's Big50 list in 2019, an annual national ranking of 50 remodeling companies. The firm also holds NADRA deck evaluation and inspection certification and TimberTech Platinum Pro status, and is licensed under MHIC #131359. Together, the awards and certifications reflect both the company's deck craftsmanship and its broader outdoor living and remodeling capability.

Cedarbrook backs its work with a layered workmanship warranty that provides ten years on carpentry, three years on hardscape, and a lifetime workmanship warranty on decks and porches built with alternative framing systems, alongside manufacturer warranties on specified products.

Custom decks remain the company's core service. Cedarbrook designs and builds residential and commercial decks in configurations that include multi-level, freestanding, rooftop, pool-and-spa, curved, and covered designs, using materials that range from pressure-treated wood and exotic hardwoods such as Ipe to composite, PVC, and bamboo. Framing options include wood, steel, aluminum, and composite systems, with footings set on helical piers, diamond piers, or traditional concrete.

Beyond decks, the firm builds porches and outdoor structures, including open, covered, and screened-in porches, three- and four-season rooms, and sunrooms, along with pergolas in fixed, manual, and motorized louvered styles, as well as cabanas and carports.

Its hardscape and outdoor living work covers paver patios, walkways, retaining walls, fire pits and fireplaces, outdoor kitchens, pool decks, and gazebos, completing what the company describes as integrated outdoor living environments rather than standalone projects. Many recent builds combine a deck with an adjoining patio, porch, or outdoor kitchen as one continuous space.

Each project moves through an in-house design process that includes three-dimensional renderings with day and night views, two-dimensional floorplans, and virtual tours, allowing homeowners to review a layout before construction begins. The same process applies whether a project is a single deck or a combined deck, porch, and patio environment.

The company plans to continue building on that foundation. "The next phase focuses on the same design/build approach applied across every outdoor living service, not only decks," Arneson said.

Cedarbrook Outdoor Design/Build is a family-owned and family-operated deck, porch, hardscape, and outdoor living contractor based in Mt Airy, Maryland, serving Howard, Frederick, Carroll, and Montgomery counties.

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Cedarbrook Outdoor Design/Build is a family-owned custom deck, porch, and outdoor living design/build firm in Mt Airy, MD.

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