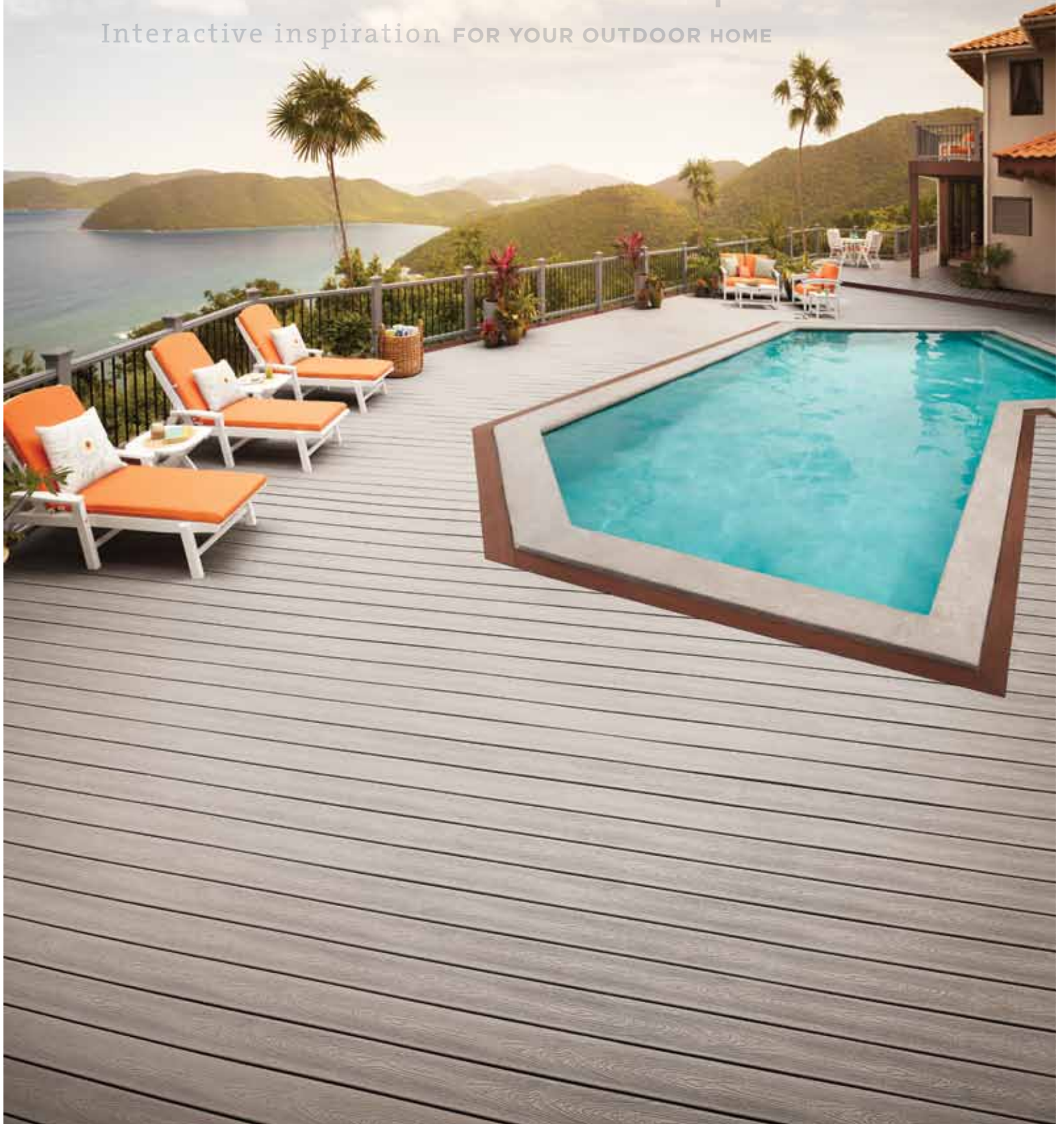


Trex®

Deckscapes®

Interactive inspiration FOR YOUR OUTDOOR HOME



WELCOME TO Deckscapes®

in this issue



DECK PARTY PLANNING GUIDE



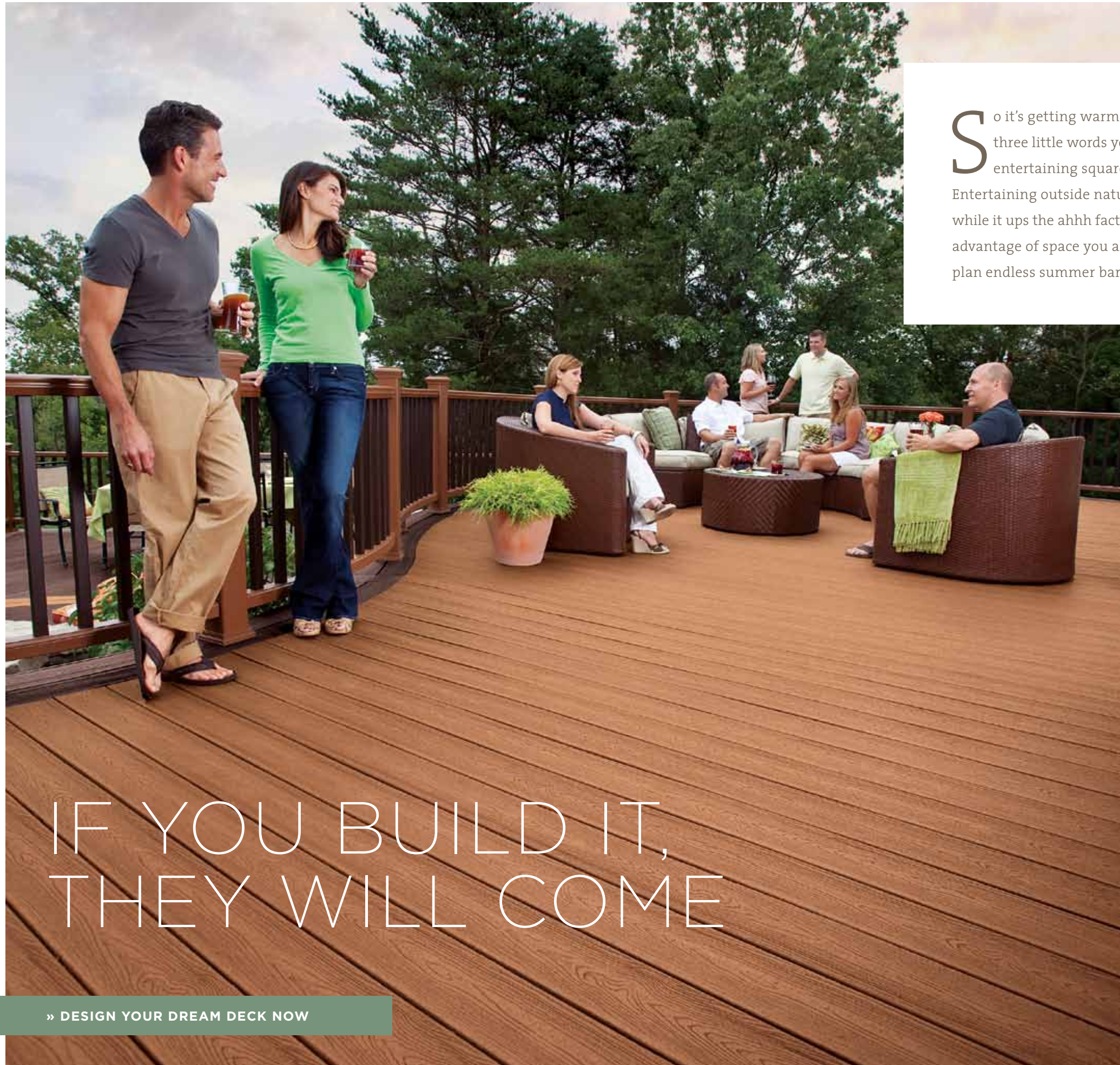
THE GREAT AMERICAN PORCH



TAKE AN EXOTIC STAYCATION



MAKE GREEN YOUR FAVORITE COLOR



IF YOU BUILD IT,
THEY WILL COME

» DESIGN YOUR DREAM DECK NOW

So it's getting warmer out there (in your mind, at least), which is the perfect time to mull over those three little words you've been hearing lately: outdoor living room. Ah, the possibilities of growing your entertaining square footage! The luxury of a sun-filled cook station! Some comfy, outside you-time. Entertaining outside naturally dials down the worries (spills get handled by Mother Nature...or the dog) while it ups the ahhh factor (sunshine, fresh air, starry skies...hammocks). Plus, creating an outdoor room takes advantage of space you already have. So pull out your lawn furniture, potted trees in serious planters and plan endless summer barbecues, because it's decided: This is the year your house becomes The Party House.

To achieve the ultimate nirvana just outside your family room, you'll want to consider a few things: traditional wood deck, or a wood-alternative? What kind of (and how much) furniture will you need? And how about lighting?

If you're going to the trouble of building a master deck situation, you might as well build one that can go the long haul. The newest wood alternative decks last longer than real wood, come in convincing wood grains, and offer richer, deeper colors than the plastic-y versions from years ago. And because so few parties include sanding, staining, splinters or rotting railings, new high-performance wood-alternatives like **Trex Transcend®** are a good option to consider for their weather-, stain-, mold-, rot- and general maintenance-resistance. **Check out how Transcend out-decks the competition.**

"The aesthetics, ease of install and complete product portfolio offered by Trex make it one of our favorite products to work with," said Harley Deome, of Deome2 Builders the Sacramento-based deck specialist. "We have been especially impressed with the Trex Transcend line and the new colors allow us to be more creative when designing dual-tone decks."

When approaching the space planning, envision your deck as you would the indoor space by designating separate sections for eating and for lounging. Plan on an outdoor dining table that leaves plenty of room for guests to walk around, even if the chairs are pulled out. Then if you have room, a conversation area—think love seat, a few side chairs and a coffee table is ideal for cocktails or dessert, and can double as a great game spot for the kids. Incorporating a pergola adds nice relief from the hot summer sun.



6 WAYS TO UP THE DRAMA OF ANY DECK PARTY

- » Prepare as much of the menu ahead of time as possible—cut pita, assign food to platters with sticky notes, make the lemonade—so you can mix and mingle.
- » Set up oversized garbage and recycling bins to make cleanup a snap.

» Assign several coolers to different types of drinks, like water bottles, beers or juice boxes.

» Use area rugs to designate separate dining and lounging areas to maximize space, take advantage of sun (or shade), and make everything feel more luxurious.

» Attach window boxes to the railings and fill with a uniform bouquet for a lush and elegant look, (particularly when the box itself coordinates with the decking or trim).

» If you're still in the building stage, consider outdoor speakers that wire to your indoor stereo, so you can lose that college boom box for good.



» VIEW IMAGE GALLERIES AT TREX.COM

of new **Trex OutdoorFurniture™**, you're on your way to becoming permanent weekend hosts. Which should make you think a bit about the lighting. There's everything from bamboo torches straight from a tropical oasis to **Trex Deck Lighting™** that can be installed right on the posts, the boards and the stairs. So no matter what you choose, don't leave your guests in the dark. Because a warm glow after the sun dips instantly adds the best hours to any fiesta.

Outdoor living rooms. No matter how simple or well-appointed, they become a magnetic spot for everything from the morning cup of coffee to an afternoon card game. So be it a classic, rectangular deck or a multi-level, curved outdoor oasis, Trex outdoor living products will make it a space you never want to leave.

"Our clients are looking for more than just a deck," said Deome, "They want a true outdoor living and entertaining area, essentially a second living space outside the home. We often get requests for kitchens and areas undercover to expand the usability of the space. The **Trex RainEscape®** system offers the flexibility to create these spaces for clients."

Whether you like the silvery patina of teak, the elegance of wrought iron, or the beautiful durability



Party down

So you know things need to move beyond an eight-pack of franks and a basket of chips. **Tara Mataraza Desmond**, cookbook author, recipe developer, culinary blogger and all-around food goddess has worked with everyone from the Iron Chefs to local kitchens, and knows her way around an outdoor menu. To break in a new deck, Desmond recommends fresh, easy grilled pizzas:

Cut one ball of pizza dough into four to six pieces. Roll out very thin.

Brush both sides with olive oil and grill over medium-high heat, three to five minutes on each side.

Reduce heat, and top dough with favorites like chopped vegetables, cooked sausage or sliced salami and plenty of cheese.

Close the lid and let the cheese melt, two to three minutes.

Great side dishes like thick slices of summer squash, onion and eggplant, marinated in vinaigrette and grilled until tender, complete a colorful, from-the-garden table.

When it comes to the bar, Desmond suggests placement is key. "Avoid setting it up in front of high-traffic spots like doors or too near the table." Arranging by type—red wine, white wine, liquor, beer—keeps it pretty, while organizing glassware all at one end keeps it neat.

For more ideas on how to design a place for everything from the guests to the guacamole, get inspired at trex.com.



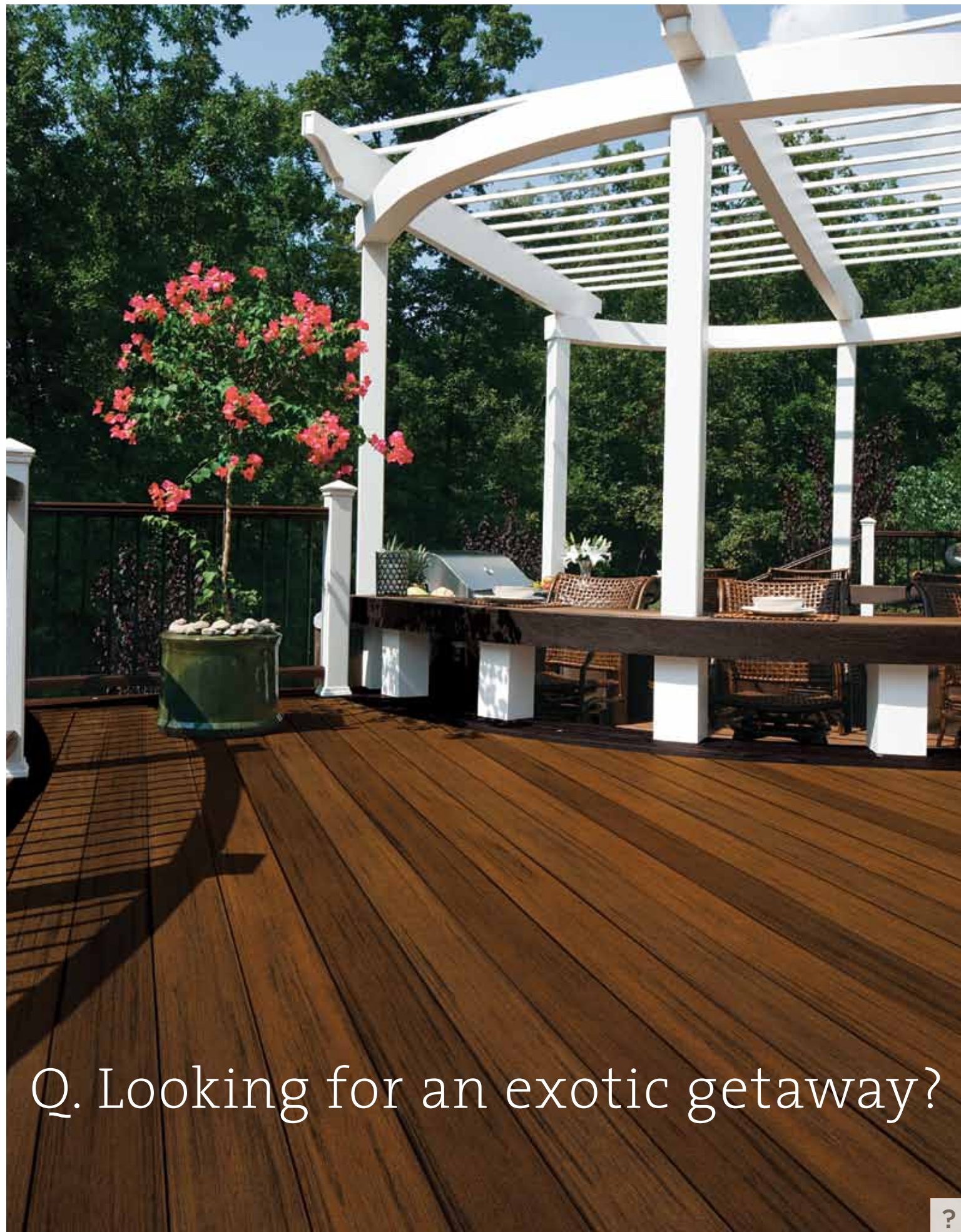
BEFORE

Urban legend

Trex is a great choice for sunbaked (read: forgotten) city roof decks as it can withstand the day-in, day-out pounding from Mother Nature without a wink. Lucky for Beth Tepper of Chicago, one of three winners of the Trex Designer

Deck Contest, who will soon be the hostess with the mostest with her perfect new urban party spot.

Follow the progress on Trex's Facebook page as we build an amazing city view for Beth that rivals her beloved skyline.



Q. Looking for an exotic getaway?

?

A. Look no further than your own backyard.

No doubt about it – times have been tough. For many families, choosing between necessary expenses like mortgages and tuition over luxuries such as a Caribbean vacation is a no brainer. The vacation usually goes faster than you can say ‘adios.’ But does it have to? Not if you have the **Trex Transcend® Decking and Railing System**.

Trex Transcend is the ultimate, high-performance decking that offers all of the beauty of wood and none of the bother. And with Trex Transcend underfoot you can begin to create an outdoor oasis you and your family can visit any time of the year.

To get you started, we asked celebrity deck designer and host of the new HGTV show “Decked Out,” *Paul LaFrance* to share some of his thoughts on the latest decking trends, his design philosophy, his favorite products and how homeowners can create an exotic outdoor room where they can feel like they are getting away without ever leaving home.

INSPIRATION FROM THE EXPERT

Q & A with Paul LaFrance, deck designer & host, HGTV's "Decked Out"

What inspires your design philosophy?

PL: I love being able to show my clients that they can turn their backyard into an escape that is merely 20 feet away from the bustle of their home. A retreat that not only inspires relaxation but is extremely low maintenance to boot.

What trends are you seeing in deck design? Multi-level? Curved features? Built-in furniture or accessories?

While I can safely say I am seeing an increase in all of the above categories, I would say the biggest trend is a total psychological change of people's mindsets toward what a deck can be. For decades,

homeowners accepted the boring square box because there were very few 'artists' in the industry. Today you are beginning to see the same creative demands placed on a decking contractor that you would an interior designer.

What are your favorite outdoor living products?

There are so many new products surfacing that I get really excited about. In the deck board category, I love the new **Trex Transcend®** product line. The stuff is virtually indestructible and yet still maintains a natural wood look, which is important to me. But they also have some cool new tropical color choices, which you don't get with other materials. I also love incorporating a wrought-iron look to my projects by using the new powder coated aluminum products, particularly railing spindles. Low maintenance, a fraction of the cost of real wrought iron, and a real elegant look.

How do you recommend homeowners create an outdoor room?

The outdoor room is big business these days. They may be enclosed with a roof, yet still very much lend to the feel of being outside. Consider not attaching the room to the house itself. It is one thing to walk out of the back door of your home into a covered porch, but quite another to walk out into the open air, and into a room that is a true separation from the house.

"I love being able to show my clients that they can turn their backyard into an escape that is merely 20 feet away from the bustle of their home."

Any last thoughts on how homeowners can transform their backyards into an escape from reality?

Water and light features are both wonderful additions when wanting to create an outside "oasis" environment. The sound of moving water is an element that adds an otherworldly feel to a backyard retreat. And when it comes to lighting, components like those offered in the new **Trex DeckLighting™** system, create a soft welcoming glow and add ambience to create a completely different feel to the space than when it was basking in the sun.

At the end of the day, the more purpose and flow an outdoor environment has, the much greater the emotional response. And the greater the emotional response, the greater the draw is to want to spend time there.



GO TROPICAL WITHOUT LEAVING HOME

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT



UPLOAD IMAGES OF YOUR OWN STAYCATION SITE ON TREX'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Turn your vacation INTO A STAYCATION

Now that you have a home away from home right outside your home, it's time to plan a staycation the entire family can enjoy.

First, to make it feel like you're really on vacation, you need to schedule a start and end date, and stick to it. Tell your spouse to use up their vacation days and get the kids to suspend their normal daily activities. This is about spending quality time together as a family.

Next, make sure you have plenty of activities planned. Whether you stay on your deck or go see some local sites, the important thing is to have an activity that gets you out of the house every day. From museums and aquariums, to state parks and theme parks, there is plenty you can do without having to go very far.

You can have a banner staycation if you start banning things that can take away from the fun like chores, the Internet and absolutely no lounging in front of the TV in pajamas.

Finally, while not all of us are able to create a multi-level deck with a separate outdoor room, there are a few backyard gadgets and products you can get to make your outdoor space a unique and exotic place the whole family will want to visit. Consider getting a couple of extras like a tent, a fire pit, a portable movie projector and cooler to keep the drinks cold.





a home outside of home

THE GREAT AMERICAN PORCH

Originating in Europe as shaded spaces in front of buildings for the public to mingle, the concept of porches made its way into American culture during the early nineteenth century and became an integral part of the American home. Before the days of mobile connectivity and the double shift, people relished in leisure time and enjoyed much of it outdoors, thus the need for a place to relax was crucial. Porches bridged the gap between the home and the outdoors and created a connection with the public. During the evenings and weekend mornings, families retreated to their porches, allowing for interaction with neighbors and passersby, a custom that ultimately led to the American porch becoming a symbol of community. Parents relaxed and chatted away while their children played in the front yard; neighbors stopped by to visit or just say “hello.” The porch was a place where memories were made. Yes, this was the American dream.

With advances in technology, particularly air conditioning, televisions, and computers, America retreated indoors and the once beloved porch became a thing of the past.

return to THE SIMPLE LIFE

The simplicity that once made the porch so enticing is now regaining its appeal. As cooling and electricity costs continue to soar and homeowners look to recapture the safe and insularly feeling of community, the porch is making a comeback. Riding the trend, in a land where the porch was made legendary, just outside of Savannah, in Richmond Hill, Georgia, is homeowner, Janet Roberts. Roberts, in the middle of her new home construction wanted to take advantage of the Southern climate by adding an outdoor space that completed the interior and welcomed guests upon arrival. "We knew our house would not be 'a home' without the right outdoor living space. Our new 'old house' also needed a porch that was inviting as the house itself," says Roberts.

Roberts, who wanted guests to feel an intimate invitation onto a beautiful porch and into her home, knew it was time to complete her home with a stunning front porch.



"We knew our house would not be a home without the right outdoor living space. Our new 'old house' also needed a porch that was inviting as the house itself."



» WATCH A VIDEO AT TREX.COM

Your porch isn't just a portal to your home; it's a portal to your life. It's a representation of you and your family, your style and personality. Your porch is the first thing guests see as they walk up to your door and the one part of your home you can't hide from the public eye so it's important that it looks and feels just as warm and welcoming as the inside of your home. Make sure your home is putting its best face forward by giving it a well-deserved facelift with a porch that embodies everything you are.

Roberts had a very specific image in mind of what she wanted to achieve for the look and functionality of her porch. She and her family spend a lot of time outdoors and they needed a space where they could enjoy the warm Southern

air whether for casual outdoor dining or for entertaining guests. More importantly, the family wanted a private and peaceful area to relax and regroup. With the intention of a porch that served multiple functions, Roberts quickly realized that no ordinary porch would do. Designing a porch that would complement her dream home and suit all of her family's needs would take more than a nice set of furniture, a few decorative accents, and some potted plants. Roberts knew she had to begin with its foundation which is why she elected to build a wide, wrap-around porch that would provide ample area for entertaining and relaxing. And what better material to use than the attractive, durable, and trusted **Trex Transcend®** products.

green, worry-free RELAXATION

Trex now offers a complete porch flooring, railing and post system that makes building a whole new porch a breeze.

"In today's economy, a budget is on everyone's mind, but making a smart investment and longevity of the porch material was equally as wise a decision, which is why we decided to go with Trex" states Trex Transcend Porch owner, Janet Roberts of Richmond Hill, Georgia. Roberts was familiar with Trex and the Transcend brand made famous by the industry's best and most durable decking and railing, but it was Robert's architect, Gerald D. Cowart, AIA, that recommended Transcend for her wrap-around porch. While Roberts was impressed by the real wood grain look of Trex Transcend, what really sold her was how eco-friendly the material was.

The new **Trex Transcend® Porch Flooring & Railing System** can be used to create a look that is an expression of you, whether you're looking to create a cozy oasis to unwind after a long-day or an inviting space to connect with neighbors. It comes in three rich, earth tone colors that can be mixed and matched with the complete line of Transcend Railings for a custom look. The unique floorboard profile creates a seamless, almost gap-free look that allows for water drainage. And, with flooring and railing that requires only minimal maintenance and won't fade or stain, you'll be at ease with a Trex porch. "I have heard now that my porch is installed, I can just forget and not worry about it," jokes Roberts, "That is one thing I will not do. It's just too wonderful to ignore!"



COMPLETE THE LOOK
The finishing touch for the Roberts' porch was the addition of stylish, comfortable furniture also from Trex. Fortunately, with Trex's line of outdoor furniture, the Roberts' could expect the same durability and quality. Keeping tradition in mind, Roberts knew she wanted a porch swing and rocking chairs. She opted for **Trex Outdoor Furniture™** Yacht Collection Rockers in Charcoal Black. And, since the family loves entertaining, side tables from the Rockport Club Collection were a perfect addition for resting drinks and appetizers.

MAKE YOUR PORCH INTO AN OUTDOOR ROOM

- » Give your porch a room-like feel by **adding in decorative accents** such as flowers, candles, and ornamental lighting
- » Add **comfortable, cushioned furniture and plenty of throw pillows** to make your porch a cozy place to curl up and relax
- » **Make your door a focal point** by painting it a bright, bold color that complements the porches décor and the outside of your home
- » Add a **patterned outdoor rug** to give your porch a cozier feel
- » **Update your hardware**—replace your knocker, house numbers, and door knob with ones that reflect your style
- » Refresh your porch with **seasonal touches**—think pumpkins, wreaths, flags, and more
- » **Add ceiling fans** to create a gentle breeze when Mother Nature doesn't
- » **Visit HGTV.com for more porch décor trends**



MAKE
GREEN
your favorite color

It's official. The once subversive, fringe lifestyle of "living off the grid" has undisputedly made its way into mainstream life. The buzz word recently popped up on an episode of the Simpsons when Homer, fed up with his mounting electricity bill, unplugs from the Springfield grid and buys a wind turbine to power the family home. His excitement fades when he comes to realize that the electricity only flows when the wind blows. Living off the grid means "living intermittently" to Homer, as he proclaims. But "living off the grid" more literally means to have a home that is not connected to the electricity grid—to live in a self-sufficient manner without reliance on public utilities.



The Silo Eco-Home
in **GREENSBURG, KS**

Living off THE GRID

means different things to different people these days. The term has come to encapsulate a lifestyle of sustainability that can be accomplished through many means, not necessarily as drastic as divorcing your local energy provider.



“Trex’s beautiful, eco-friendly decking material made it an ideal choice for the mission and design of this project.”



FOR THE TOWN OF GREENSBURG, KANSAS

you could say they were blown right off the grid. When a tornado devastated the town in 2007 and all was lost, a unique opportunity arose from the rubble. Just days after the storm, the community came together and decided to rebuild sustainably, striving to become a model green town for the future. Ever since this landmark commitment was made, Greensburg, dubbed “GreenTown,” has worked to incorporate sustainable principles into their rebuilding process. As part of the green rebuilding, Trex donated a generous amount of composite decking to create a low-maintenance deck for the community’s “Silo Eco-Home.” The primary building houses offices for the Greensburg GreenTown non-



profit team and also serves as the town’s “Green Visitors Center,” providing eco-tourists with area information and overnight lodging.

“Our goal is for this to be a place where visitors can learn about and experience first-hand the great sustainable building options available today,” said Daniel Wallach, director for Greensburg GreenTown. “Trex’s beautiful, eco-friendly decking material made it an ideal choice for the mission and design of this project.” Trex collects, salvages and repurposes plastic, wood scrap and sawdust, and turns it into

low-maintenance outdoor living products. In fact, the average 500-square-foot composite Trex deck contains about 140,000 recycled plastic bags. “Trex is proud to be part of the Greensburg rebuilding effort,” said Ronald Kaplan, president and CEO for Trex. “As a recognized ‘green’ leader, we look forward to helping Greensburg GreenTown become one of the top sustainable communities in the country.”

Moosicorn RANCH



 **SHARE YOUR GREEN LIVING TIPS WITH TREX ON FACEBOOK**

When it came time to create an outdoor living space at Moosicorn, they made the decision to build with ecological Trex products manufactured from reclaimed plastic and wood. The Muellers chose **Trex Accents®** for its natural wood look (minus the splinters) and low-maintenance— including no staining or sanding. Building their outdoor home with Trex is just one example of the many ways the Muellers chose to live-out their vision of an environmentally-conscious life. Alex explains, “we use the terms ‘green’ and ‘sustainable’ as we interpret them. If our views don’t live up to your version that’s okay by us.”

The truth is, not many of us are capable or willing to completely remove ourselves from conventional energy usage, or rebuild our lives entirely on green principles. That doesn’t mean we can’t participate. We can all “live off the grid” in our own way. It’s the small household decisions made every day that add up to a positive environmental impact.



FOR ALEX AND SCOTT MUELLER,

the resolution to live off the grid was more of a personal decision than act of Mother Nature. Back in May 2009, the couple set out to build their “sustainable dream farm” on 44 acres of scenic land near Spokane, Washington. Moosicorn Ranch is more than just an eco-farm, “This is an experiment in life and living for us” says Alex.



Here are some low-stress changes to improve your eco-scorecard (and save some cash to boot):

Fix the leaks

One drip per second from a leaky faucet or pipe can waste up to 5 gallons of water a day, and 1,800 gallons a year. While you won’t notice much of an increase on your water bill (around \$3 annually), if an overlooked leak soaks through your kitchen floor, you could wind up with a \$1,000 repair job— money that could have been saved by simply replacing a 50-cent washer.

Put on a sweater

Layers are in this season, so turn down your thermostat this winter. Adjust it by just one degree for eight hours a day, and you could save 1 percent on your monthly heating bills. Do it for 24 hours and save 3 percent. Try setting the temp at 70 degrees during the day and 62 at night during winter (and 78 or higher come summer). Heating and air-conditioning account for nearly half the energy used in our homes, so every little bit less you use makes a dent.

Laundry with less

Turn down the hot water tap for the washing machine so less goes into the warm-water cycle. Perspiration and most other dirt dislodge best at body temperature, so you don’t need water that’s warmer than 100 degrees. Since most washers simply open both the hot and cold taps to make “warm” water, it may take longer to fill the machine. But you’ll save about \$40 annually on your water-heating bill.

as green as it gets

Another way to live off the grid your own way is to put your money where your mouth is when it comes to purchasing decisions that can impact your carbon footprint. Since its founding nearly 20 years ago, "going green" has been more than a trendy catch phrase for Trex Company, based out of Winchester, Virginia. As a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, Trex is continually working to improve the way America's buildings and communities are designed, constructed and operated.

Trex composite products are actually made from 95% recycled and reclaimed plastic and wood fibers. As the largest plastic bag recycler in the United States, Trex saves around 600 million pounds of plastic and wood scrap from landfills every year. Zero trees are harmed when it comes to the manufacturing of Trex products. In fact, they are the first company in the wood-alternative decking industry to receive an International Code Council Evaluation Service® (ICC-ES)* SAVE Verification for Recycled Content. This independent, third party verification confirms that, with a minimum of 95.4% recycled content, Trex composite products really are as green as it gets.



Trex's products are so environmentally friendly that Trex's Transcend® Decking was recently selected by Home and Garden Television to be used for the **HGTV 2011 Green Home**. This year's home, located in Stapleton, a community near Denver, Colorado, was inspired by the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright and features a synthetic turf lawn, solar panels, and eco-friendly, energy efficient windows, making a deck from Trex a natural complement to the uber-green space.

Not only does Trex reuse as smartly as possible for their innovative products, they also employ sustainable processes to produce them: the Trex trailers used to transport wood dust utilize vegetable-based oil hydraulics; their proprietary processing method eliminates smokestacks entirely; and factory runoff is

recycled back into the manufacturing line. To top it all off, Trex regularly seeks out third-party audits to make sure they're continuously improving their green practices while meeting all environmental, health and safety guidelines and regulations.

Whether you're rebuilding your town, your life or just your outdoor living room— you don't need to live off the grid to think outside the box.

resources



ON THE COVER

products featured

decking:
Trex Transcend® in Gravel Path & Vintage Lantern

railing:
Trex Transcend in Gravel Path with contemporary balusters in Charcoal Black

built by: ProBuilt Construction

MAKE GREEN YOUR FAVORITE COLOR

products featured

decking:
Trex Accents® in Saddle

websites featured
Greensburg GreenTown Blog
www.greensburggreentown.org

GreenTown Photo Gallery
www.greensburggreentown.org/photos/silo-eco-home/

Moosicorn Ranch
www.moosicorn.com/

HGTV Green Home
www.hgtv.com/green-home/index.html



LOOKING FOR AN EXOTIC GETAWAY?

products featured

decking:
Trex Transcend in Spiced Rum & Vintage Lantern

railing:
Trex Transcend in Vintage Lantern & Classic White with Contemporary Balusters in Charcoal Black

lighting: Trex DeckLighting™ Post Cap in Classic White

trim: Trex Trim™ in Classic White

built by: Holloway Company, Inc.

websites featured
Paul LaFrance's Blog

<http://cutting-edge-design.blogspot.com/>

Paul LaFrance's Photo Gallery

<http://www.cuttingedgesdesign.ca/gallery.php>



IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME

products featured

decking:
Trex Transcend in Tree House & Vintage Lantern

railing:
Trex Transcend in Tree House & Vintage Lantern

lighting:
Trex DeckLighting Post Cap and Riser Light in Classic White

drainage:
Trex RainEscape® Deck Drainage System

furniture:
Trex Outdoor Furniture™ Rockport Collection in Vintage Lantern with Sunbrella cushions in Canvas Birds Eye

built by: ProBuilt Construction

websites featured

Deome2 Builders

www.deome2builders.com

Tara Mataraza Desmond's Blog

<http://crumbsonmykeyboard.com/>

Trex Color Visualizer

www.trex.com/inspire/colors/color-visualizer/index.htm

THE GREAT AMERICAN PORCH

products featured

flooring:
Trex Transcend porch profile in Gravel Path

railing:
Trex Transcend in Classic White with Colonial and Square Spindles

trim: Trex Trim Beadboard, Ogee Nose and Cornerboard in Classic White

furniture: Trex Outdoor Furniture Rockport Club Collection Arm Chair, Settee, Side Table and Coffee Table in Charcoal Black; Yacht Club Rocker, Swing, and Side Table in Charcoal Black

designed by: Gerald D. Cowart of the Cowart Group

built by: Michael A. Rogers Construction, LLC

websites featured

HGTV

<http://www.hgtv.com>

History of the American Front Porch

http://xroads.virginia.edu/~class/am483_97/projects/cook/first.htm



Have a question for a Trex specialist?
Submit to: question@trex.com

Do you have a truly inspirational Trex outdoor space to share?
Don't be shy- show it off! Email us at marketingmail@trex.com



Trex®

HOW OUTDOOR LIVING SHOULD FEEL.

visit trex.com or call 1-800-BUY-TREX

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