



## Country Charm

THE DESIRE TO have a special spot for capturing the serenity of the morning sun and for hosting outdoor dinner gatherings once the sun began setting prompted this Connecticut family to hire renowned outdoor kitchen designer Michael Gotowala, founder of the Outdoor Kitchen Design Store by Preferred Properties.

Gotowala proposed enlarging the deck space and capturing value centers for an open-air kitchen, an evening bar, and a nearby hot tub with granite surround and remote fire feature above—all ideas that were graciously accepted. With a focus on living outdoors fabulously, Gotowala outfitted the space with elegant details, including the beautiful masonry work for which Preferred Properties is known. The elegance of the stone surrounding the Brown Jordan Java cabinetry shows the insightfulness of this masterful outdoor designer.

The sprawling grill island features a 36-inch grill, plenty of storage, a two-drawer refrigerator, and a trash pull—all capped off with swirling granite counters. Another nice touch: The top shelf was designed for sight lines from entering the backyard, wind blockage for grilling, receptacles, and even night lighting underneath. The end result is a stunning outside living area full of Connecticut country charm. *Learn more about this designer at [www.outdoorkitchendesigner.com](http://www.outdoorkitchendesigner.com).* «



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**SPECIAL FEATURES**  
 Sprawling stone and granite beverage and bar area with live sink, remote fire wall ledge with spa built into deck, outdoor kitchen island, new mahogany deck, custom granite backsplash by Preferred Properties

**PRODUCTS USED**  
**Cabinetry:** Brown Jordan Cabinetry  
**Countertops:** Custom granite  
**Grill:** DCS by Fisher & Paykel 36-inch  
**Power Burner:** Alfresco  
**Refrigerator:** Summit two-drawer pullouts  
**Beverage Centers:** Alfresco, True  
**Fire Burner:** HPC  
**Spa:** Sundance Marin



PHOTOGRAPHER: MICHAEL GOTOWALA