



Since 1958, Pools by Andrews has been designing and building exceptional pool environments for clients all over New England. From waterfalls to outdoor spas—and everything in between—the Billerica company specializes in creating an oasis that suits each client's taste and budget.

The firm's current owner, Ed Andrews, is a 35-year veteran of the pool industry. Founded by Ed's father and uncle, the company has consistently been a pioneer in

New England's pool industry. Pools by Andrews was the first in the entire region to build a gunite pool. "Pools use to be plain white plaster with few design options. Homeowners had minimal choices," explains Andrews. "Fortunately over the past decade, we've seen a lot more automation and a lot more choices for homeowners when it comes to material, colors, and equipment. There are definitely more options for homeowners now as opposed to ten years ago."

Pool design is both art and technology, which means on-the-job experience can be crucial.

The more choices a client has, the happier they will be with the final result because their pool will be perfectly tailored to suit their home. Advancements in materials are key on Cape Cod, where the natural setting reigns supreme. To flatter the environment surrounding each pool, it is key for the design and materials to work cohesively. "For a natural environment on Cape Cod, the classic look might be a lineal pool as it is almost minimalist



and lends itself to something near the water. If you're away from the water, or near vegetation like trees and woods, there is natural stone that can encompass part of the pool. And we can design it to include landscaping right behind the stone to blend it with the surrounding environment," Andrews explains. To further enhance customization, there is a vast array of natural materials. "There are pebble-based materials with all kind of colors and applications, and even sea

Various forms of energy usage and streamlined efficiency allows homeowners to create a pool with a smaller carbon-footprint and minimal impact on the surrounding environment.



shells can be mixed in. There is a lot more variety when it comes to the materials. The borders can be granite, bluestone, or paving deck materials as opposed to plain poured concrete," says Andrews.

A wide array of aesthetic possibilities makes the design process fun and personal, but advancements in safety technologies bring a sense of comfort to pool owners. "Safety is really important," stresses Andrews.



"We install fencing, gates and even automatic pool covers. A lot of our clients are installing pools at their second homes on Cape Cod, so an automatic pool cover allows the homeowner to close the pool and not be concerned about safety."

Pools are also becoming increasingly efficient and environmentally friendly. Various forms of energy usage and streamlined efficiency allow homeowners to create a pool with a smaller carbon-footprint and minimal impact on the surrounding environment. "There are different types of filtration equipment and sanitation and heating equipment that are more eco-friendly," Andrews explains. "There are solar heating options and a new type of heat pump that works almost like a reverse air-conditioner as opposed to a fossil fuel heater. There are pumps now that are multi-speed and more energy efficient and you can choose

filtration systems that require less backwash into the surrounding landscape." Energy efficiency benefits the environment as well as pool owners' wallets, minimizing excessive use of fossil fuels. Less backwash into a homeowner's yard means that they never have to worry about unwanted substances seeping into their plants, ground, or water. Sifting through these technological and environmental advancements may seem daunting, but working with an expert like Ed Andrews makes the process painless and easy.

Pools by Andrews can undertake projects of varying size and scale, as can be seen in some of their recent work. "About a year-and-a-half ago, we completed The Ocean Mist Beach Hotel and Suites in South Yarmouth. We built a pool and a separate spa and a fire pit. The project was both indoor and outdoor. It's really beautiful when you see an elevated look of the ocean and the pool flowing together," says Andrews. At the

opposite end of the spectrum, Pools by Andrews also knows how to design something equally beautiful on a much smaller scale. "We are in the middle of building a pool right now in Falmouth that has a small footprint, but has a lot going on. It has a vanishing edge and an outdoor spa that runs year round. There is a lot of glass tile work and two automatic pool covers. It's not huge, but there is no wasted space."

Pool design is both art and technology, which means on-the-job experience can be crucial. Working with an expert is not only necessary, but allows professionals like Ed Andrews to lend their expertise so that the homeowner is thrilled when their new aquatic feature is completed. A pool is a big project and a beautiful addition to any outdoor space, and with Pools by Andrews at the forefront of design, technology and installation, homeowners will enjoy the ultimate summer oasis in their landscape.

~ By Erin Murray

