

# Summer Opens Swim Pools And Busy Suburban Days

For hundreds of families in this area, the coming of summer means the opening of the swimming club.

And that opening carries with it a whole new summer living pattern, complete with swimming lessons for the children, pleasant afternoons by the pool for moms and youngsters, a quick before-dinner dip for dad after a hot day at the office, and sometimes an evening swim under the lights.

All for a quite nominal cost and none of the fuss and labor that goes with owning and maintaining a pool of your own.

Swimming clubs have been increasing in popularity over the last few years, and are to be found now in Livonia, Northville and Farmington. There are a half dozen in the Farmington area.

Some new subdivisions built in the last decade—Forest Park in Farmington, for example—have included a community pool in their list of attractions and set up the machinery for operating it.

More often, the pool is built and operated by a group of families that get together for just this purpose.

Farmington Glen Aquatic Club, for example, was built five years ago. Three hundred families each contributed \$300 to acquire the land near Farmington Road and Nine Mile and build a regulation-size pool and dressing rooms and showers.

They then paid yearly dues for the privilege of using all pool facilities throughout the summer months. At any time they wanted to leave their pool membership, the club would buy it and sell it to another family.

The original fee now is a little higher, and yearly dues amount to \$70. The club is an increasingly busy spot on hot summer days.

Current president Elmer Plucky said the waiting list now is so long that it takes up to two years to get into the club, although there is a 30 per cent turnover in membership from year to year.

Members may use the facilities on most days from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and the family fee is the same regardless of the number of children. There is a wading pool for the youngest pool members, a course of swimming instruction for all ages and stages of development, and limited guest privileges.

Above all, there is a staff of qualified life guards that directs activities and safeguards swimmers.

This system, with slight variations, is in effect in other pools in the area.

Members find many advantages. Most of them deal with the convenience of a pool to be used whenever the mood strikes without the need of maintaining it.

But there's also the dividend of the host of poolside friends they make. In fact, a classic remark keeps cropping up when two pool members happen to meet—say in a supermarket.

"Why, I hardly recognized you," one's almost sure to say. "You look so different in clothes."



Beautify Your Corner of America with a comfortable patio for outdoor living. A durable floor of concrete, flowers and shrubs all add to the attractiveness of this outdoor "family room."

## Patio Enhances Outdoor Living

Among the pleasures of travel abroad, outdoor cafes rate high with most tourists. But without ever leaving their "corner of America," many families are enjoying the charm and relaxation of sitting out under the trees, right in their own back yard.

For those who like a bit of formality along with their outdoor dining, a custom-designed patio will have special appeal.

For example, a center area of white concrete will provide a smooth, level base for chairs and table. Surrounding areas of pebble concrete will offer contrast. The surface of exposed pebbles, in turn, will provide a natural transition to lawn and garden.

Many effects are possible.

### Dry Soil Is Best

It is a great mistake to garden when the soil is wet. If it should happen to be largely clay, working it while wet will result in a product closely resembling concrete—certainly not a medium in which plants will grow happily.

with concrete through the use of color and various surface treatments, says the Portland Cement Association. Divider strips of wood or metal can be used to create a pattern of lines and allow for expansion for contraction. A well-constructed patio of concrete will last for years, and requires practically no maintenance.

In planning an outdoor dining area, careful thought should be given to the location. Ideally, it should have easy access to the kitchen, protection from wind and sun, privacy and an attractive view.

By beautifying your corner of America with a paved patio, open-air dining and entertaining can be casual or elegant depending on individual tastes, but certain to be more comfortable and require less effort.

Looking for a quick cover for that hot dry spot? Plant seeds of portulaca, nasturtium, or sweet alyssum. These plants enjoy sun and poor soil.

## Offer Kits to Make Home Tiffany Lamps

Remember when you sat by the hour as a kid and watched the sunlight stream in the parlor window at grandma's house, making patterns on the Tiffany lamp.

Then, as you grew up, the lamps went out of style. Later, when you became an adult, they became a collector's item—a Tiffany signature could draw upwards of \$400.

Now something new has come on the market. Tiffany has enjoyed a revival and at budget prices.

The do-it-yourself kit by a Chicago firm has brought many designs and styles of the same Tiffany lamps you knew as a kid.

The kits are available locally at Livonia Hardware on Five Mile at Farmington Road. They come in decorator colors.

Livonia Hardware men Al and Jo will give you instructions about putting these pre-cut authentic stained glass lamps together. You will have fun doing it and a real conversation piece for your home.

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