













## The Spaces Beside OUR SHOWERS

Ask anyone on Long Beach Island to describe their version of an outdoor shower and you will get a different answer. Most homeowners will address the utility-driven features they desire – an "extra shower" for guests, a place to clean-up coming off the beach, or a dog clean-up spot. Over the last twenty years, showers built by some have become more sanctuary then utility. Gorgeous

escapes nestled into a landscape design to unwind and relax, these areas for cleansing your body become a place for cleansing your mind and reflecting on your time at the shore.

It is essential, however, to create that haven without sacrificing function. At Reynolds Landscaping, we understand that developing an

outside shower that fits into a small property with a large home and a small outdoor footprint – the norm on LBI – requires some creative thinking. Not only must the modification of the outdoor space create a spot for the shower, but it must also consider an oft-neglected element – the transition space. When well-designed, these transitional spaces work to highlight the shower, or to downplay or conceal it.

Here are a few of our well-designed showers and the spaces surrounding them:

- Spray Beach oceanfront shower: This beach front shower was built of cedar wood in 2006 to house not only the shower stall and changing room but also storage space for surfboards and beach equipment. By nestling this space under the footprint of an existing raised deck no additions to lot coverage allowances were created making the structure not only spatially efficient but highly accessible and easy to maintain as well.
- Loveladies multi-purpose spa/rinse-off station: Designed for a large family of outdoor sports enthusiasts, this outdoor cabana combines function and elegance to create both a quick rinse-off station after a day on the water and spa retreat inviting relaxation and reflection. By following the lines created by the adjacent curving pergola, the exterior walls of the shower structure composed of varying hardwoods, custom-made ceramic tiles and glass block create a flawless design and functional space.
- Beach Haven ocean front cabana: This outdoor cabana is more lounge than shower and provides a creative solution to maximizing lot coverage without compromising design and function. By leaving a portion of the roof open to the elements, all coverage guidelines were adhered to without compromising privacy or aesthetics. The resulting space creates a spa-like ambiance equipped with glass block shower stall, wood treatments and well-placed accent accessories and plants.
- Loveladies poolside shower/changing room: This combination shower/changing room sits adjacent to the poolside deck providing both easy access and cozy seclusion. Originally built as a basic utility shower, this new structure considered the changing needs of a young family from childhood into teenage and adulthood, and expanded into the ground level crawlspace and garage. Frosted glass privacy panels, pebbled flooring, granite benches and a combination of stone and wood walls create a spacious yet functional retreat.
- Holgate lagoon-front spa-shower: Originally part of a ground level utility garage/storage area, this spacious spa-like shower nestles discreetly into the corner of the residence and could easily be overlooked in favor of the other bolder outside elements in the multi-level backyard. Nevertheless, the combination natural rock and wood façade along with well-placed accent lighting create an inviting and intimate refuge.

Things to consider when developing an outside shower as it relates to the space around it:

- Your shower use will change as time passes.
- Develop a space that maximizes your footprint.
- Make the shower stand out or blend in; both have a place in cohesive design plans.
- Create a shower that has features similar to those in the shower inside your home.
- And always remember that a relevant outdoor shower is a conversation piece, an escape, and your respite.

— Tanek Hood, Reynolds Lighting and Electric.

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