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## WELCOME TO OUTDOOR'S SECOND SEASON: **Fall is a Great Time to Enhance Your Outdoor Man Cave; Add Fire Elements, Motion or Deep Seating**

FALL 2017 – The leaves are starting to change; there's a crisp coolness in the air, and there's football as far as the eye can see. Welcome to fall – Outdoor's "second season."

Agio, USA, a leader in the outdoor furniture industry, has timely advice for homeowners who think the end of summer means shuttering their outdoor rooms: Fall is a perfect time to *add* elements that can extend the usefulness and enjoyment of outdoor living areas for many more weeks for much of the country.

"The calendar may say that pools and outdoor areas should be closed for the season after Labor Day, but most homeowners know it's way too early to pack away their outdoor rooms for the winter," said Mike Gaylord, vice president of Agio. "Autumn the 'Second Season' for Outdoor – a time for watching fall sports like football and post-season baseball or just enjoying cooler nights around the fire pit with good friends and conversation."

"Consider revisiting your local outdoor specialty store or traditional furniture retailer that carries the outdoor category," he said. "It's a wonderful time to add additional elements to your outdoor room, such as a fire element, swivel or glider seating or additional deep seating."

If they elect to stand pat for now, Gaylord suggests homeowners take stock in how well their outdoor rooms serve their needs this fall so that next spring they'll have a better idea of what to replace or expand when the new 2018 collections arrive. "For example, during your backyard "tailgate" events this season, were family members or guests crammed into too small a space? Was there enough furniture for everyone?"

Gaylord recommends that families should also consider how they'd like the outdoor space to perform in the next few years. "Will there be more occasions for family entertaining or socializing? Do your current pieces have the appropriate form and function for those gatherings? Conversely, will there be downsizing in the coming years as the 'nest' starts to empty?"

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More ambitious homeowners may also consider future needs for improved lighting, electrical tech upgrades such as outdoor speakers, flat screen TVs, outdoor Wi-Fi, or installing special landscape focal points.

Lastly, consider what to do with their present furniture. “Consider donating your present collection to resale organizations or other charities,” Gaylord said. “You’ll be helping worthwhile agencies and supporting their causes – and perhaps gain a tax deduction – all while making room for an exciting new collection that will begin arriving in just a few months.”

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