



PREVENTION

Highlights

**Staying Prepared and Aware
for Spring in Kansas**

In This Issue...

- **Fire Watch**
- **Door-Locking Devices Guide**
- **Hoarding: Issues for the Fire Service**

PREVENTION Highlights

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Our Mission

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is dedicated to protecting lives and property from the hazards of fire or explosion and will promote prevention, educational and investigative activities to mitigate incidents, promote life safety and deter crimes.

The Fire Prevention Division

The goal of the Fire Prevention Division is to reduce the potential impact of fire and explosion hazards where people live, work and congregate (other than one- or two-family dwellings) through code enforcement, inspections, plans review, licensing, and public education.

Prevention Highlights

Prevention Highlights is published quarterly to provide facility managers and others with information necessary to operate fire-safe facilities.

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Connect with us!



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Edu-Note

by Shawn



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With warmer spring weather right around the corner, we will all begin to spend more time outdoors. In this issue of Prevention Highlights, we will talk about grill safety, which is a leading cause of fires and fire related injuries during the warmer months. We will also cover other spring seasonal issues including outdoor cleaning and emergency preparedness.

Hoarding is a topic not often thought of in relation to fire safety. However, excess combustible material is often a hidden danger that can affect those that are unaware that the hoard exists. In a multi-family dwelling, A hoard can be a danger to all residents and visitors, as well as any responding firefighters. In this issue, we have provided valuable information on this topic from the National Fire Protection Agency.

You will also find information on the importance of Fire Watch. This is a way for those responsible for the lives of others to protect them from fire in the event that an occupancy's life safety systems are not operable. Fire watch is an invaluable technique to protect those that may not be able to protect themselves.

At the Office of the State Fire Marshal, we hope all Kansans have a safe and enjoyable spring.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to set up a presentation, please feel free to send me an email shawn.alexander@ks.gov.

-Shawn Alexander, Fire Prevention Education Consultant

OSFM Prevention Happenings...

Recent OSFM Prevention Inspectors Who Passed CFI 1 Exam

The Certified Fire Inspector 1 (CFI 1) program through the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) is a requirement of our inspectors in order for them to be eligible to complete federal inspections for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is a 40-hour online course. After completing the online course each participant studies for the 100-question exam. This exam has a four-hour time limit. Once they have passed the exam, they must also complete a 65-page practicum workbook in order to obtain their certification. They will then move on to the final stage of their training, which is to complete the 141-hour basic training through CMS. We here at the OSFM are very proud of these individuals for their hard work and dedication.



Jason Allison



Jane Hammond



Tim Millspaugh



Heather Lopez



Welcome to OSFM Prevention...

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is pleased to welcome a new fire investigator, an elevator program manager and 2 new fire prevention inspectors.



Amanda Niemeth

Amanda Niemeth will join our Investigation Division as an investigator for Shawnee County and NE Kansas. She comes to OSFM after more than seven years with the Topeka Police Department.

Amanda lives in Topeka with her husband, four rescue dogs and one horse. She enjoys working out, training and learning with her horse.

"I wanted an opportunity for professional growth and development," she said. "Being able to utilize my law enforcement and investigation skills, while learning new skills, is intriguing to me."

Bill VanAusdall joins OSFM as the new Elevator Program Manager for Prevention. He spent the last 16 years as an elevator inspector for the City of Kansas City, MO.



Bill VanAusdall

Bill lives in Topeka with his wife, Eleanor. Combined, they have nine children, 11 grandchildren (another one due in March) and one great-grandson. Eleanor operates Jades Mission Animal Rescue and specializes in helping senior dogs find permanent homes. He enjoys spending time with his family.

"I am very excited to be involved with forming the Kansas Elevator Program," he said.

Tony Edwards joins OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector for the northwest corner of Kansas. He was the bar manager at Rustler's Bar and Grill in Kinsely, Kan.

Tony lives in Kinsely. He has a fiancé, six daughters, one granddaughter and three cats. He enjoys watching TV and grilling.

"I was looking for a new career and a new challenge," he said.

Anthony Lee joins OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector for Osage, Franklin and Miami counties. He comes to OSFM from Pathways Family Service where he worked for over seven years.

Anthony lives in Topeka. He has a daughter and two sons. He enjoys coaching sports and public speaking.

"I chose to take this job because it was a career, not a job," he said.

Welcome to the OSFM, Amanda, Bill, Tony and Anthony!



Anthony Edwards



Anthony Lee

For a list of OSFM current job openings visit

<https://firemarshal.ks.gov/Jobs.aspx>

Visit GetAlarmedKS.org to learn about our **FREE** Smoke Alarm Installation Program

Smoke alarms available:

- Smoke & CO combination alarms
- Smoke alarm devices for residents who are deaf or hard-of-hearing



'Twas the Night Before Fire Watch

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the Midwest, not a creature was stirring, not even your guests. The news had predicted such a cold subzero storm, that even St. Nicholas should heed the warn. Residents, patients, and staff snug in their beds, dreaming of sugar plums in their heads. Just as administrators settled down for a long winter's nap, on the side table the cell phone gave a rap. When they answered to see what was the matter, it was a maintenance worker stating such a clatter. When what to their wondering ears should they hear, the sprinklers had burst, their worst fears!

It's Kansas in winter, and not unlike most winters in Kansas, we usually get at least one big, sub-zero storm. Like true Midwesterners we prepare to tough out the front. We cover our car windows, dig out the snow boots and ice scrapers. We stock up on firewood, food, fuel for the generator, and sit and wait. However, this year there was an extra twist, the storm was due to hit over Christmas. Even Santa had to put on the ice chains. Some people had the luxury of being on vacation, but some important and vital workers and facilities do not. So, when administrators of hospitals, nursing homes, hotels, and schools were woken from their Christmas Eve slumber with frantic calls from maintenance workers stating their Fire Protection systems were down due to freezing pipes bursting, or boilers breaking, causing uncomfortably cold temperatures, it soon turned into the "Nightmare before Christmas".

Fire watch is an old term dating back to the earliest of times. The military used it in times of war, watching for bombing raids, posted patrols to watch over barracks at night, or on ships to ensure a fire did not cause them to sink. Standing fire watch was simple enough, a person must be alert enough to watch, listen, or smell for signs of fire. Since fire can occur at any time, this watch was conducted 24/7, broken up into shifts. Fire watch was implemented by any person or business that had something to lose from a fire, but The United States Forest Service made fire watch into a profession. In 1933, President Roosevelt formed the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to recruit young men and veterans of World War I. The CCC built tall fire lookout towers to be able to see vast amounts of land and watch for fires. During WWII, these towers doubled for enemy aircraft lookouts. Fire watch has evolved and changed over time but has never gone away. In current times, it is even written into

code books and laws. The OSFM commonly tracks, advises, and implements fire watches every day. We even provide a Fire Facts page that assists facilities on commonly asked questions, along with a blank fire watch log sheet. NFPA and IFC are the references for our current definition of fire watch.

"A fire watch is a short-term, emergency measure intended to provide an acceptable level of life safety in a building that has an impaired fire safety system. A fire watch is a compensatory measure only. It is intended to allow continued occupancy of a building or facility that may not be safe for building occupants during the time period required for implementing appropriate changes or repairs. The purpose of the fire watch is to check ALL areas of the building on a regular basis for fire/life safety emergencies and then to alert the facility occupants to take appropriate action as early as possible."

Formal Fire Watch Procedures are as follows:

- Notify ALL staff and occupants (if appropriate) immediately.
- Notify the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) of the Fire Watch condition. The AHJ for all healthcare occupancies in the state of Kansas is the Office of the State Fire Marshal and can be reached at (785) 296-3401. Schools, colleges, and correctional facilities are also required to notify OSFM of fire watch conditions. The aforementioned occupancies must also notify their local jurisdictions of the Fire Watch condition.
- Fire watch shall be maintained during entire period of facility occupancy.
- Person(s) assigned to the Fire Watch **SHALL HAVE NO OTHER DUTIES.**
- Informal Fire Watch plans include notification and communication procedures. Portable radios and cellular phones may be used to send an alarm to occupants and emergency response forces.
- Fire Watch shall include ALL AREAS of the facility. Special attention shall be paid to storage areas, janitor closets, attics, utility spaces, and other normally unoccupied areas.
- Fire Watch rounds shall be continuous. However, all areas are to be checked **at least hourly.**
- Healthcare facilities, schools, colleges, and detention facilities must send a log of the Fire Watch round at the end of each shift until the situation is corrected. This is preferably done via facsimile. The OSFM fax number is (785) 296-0151

'Twas the Night Before Fire Watch continued on Page 6...



Code Consultation Form:

Get Answers to Fire/Elevator Code Questions

When it comes to finding and understanding fire code, it can be very difficult and hard to follow. There are many codes to reference.

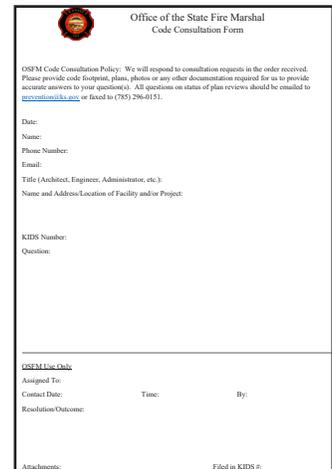
Those codes include the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the International Fire Codes (IFC), and the International Building Codes (IBC). For this reason, we at the OSFM have created the Code Consultation Form.

This form can be found on our site at firemarshal@ks.gov. It is available for fire code and elevator code questions. It is the most efficient way for you to find answers to code questions. Completing this form will get you in touch with the most appropriate person to answer your question.

The PDF version can be submitted via email to prevention@ks.gov or printed and faxed to (785) 296-0151. There is also an online version to submit direct from our site. Keep in mind, our staff will respond to each form in the order they are received.

The more details you include in the form, the more efficient the process to answer your question. Including all documents relevant to your question will also help us provide you with the information you request. The Code Consultation Form is located in the forms section of our website. It can also be found by using the search tool on our site. If necessary, you can also find an instructional video for this form on our website.

[CLICK HERE FOR OSFM CODE CONSULTATION FORM](#)



The image shows a sample of the Code Consultation Form. It includes a header with the OSFM logo and title. Below is a policy statement: "OSFM Code Consultation Policy: We will respond to consultation requests in the order received. Please provide code footprint, plans, photos or any other documentation required for us to provide accurate answers to your questions. All questions on status of plan reviews should be emailed to prevention@ks.gov, or faxed to (785) 296-0151." The form contains fields for Date, Name, Phone Number, Email, Title (Architect, Engineer, Administrator, etc.), Name and Address/Location of Facility and/or Project, KIDS Number, and Question. A section for OSFM Use Only includes Assigned To, Contact Date, Time, By, and Resolution Outcome. At the bottom, there are fields for Attachments and Filed in KIDS.

'Twas the Night Before Fire Watch

continued from Page 5...

Remember, Fire Watches are compensatory measures only and cannot be used in lieu of compliance with the Kansas Fire Prevention Code.

No one can predict the weather from year to year, that is why it is important to always be ready for worst case scenarios. The time for cold winter maintenance, upgrades, or additions is not when bad weather is expected, rather in the warmer months. This year instead of hoping the worst will not happen again, take preventive measures to ensure that if, or when, cold weather hardships come, you will be prepared. Contact your Fire Suppression Systems provider and discuss plans to protect systems from harsh weather. Train staff on fire watch and emergency procedures. Educate patients, residents, and staff on what these plans look like. In 1910 Henry Graves, the 2nd Chief of the Forest Service stated, "One of the fundamental principles in fire protection is to detect and attack fires in their incipiency". What was true in 1910, is still true today. Even with all the technological advances, fire has not changed. However, maybe our attention to prevention should.

References:

1. [A History of the Architecture of the USDA Forest Service](#). U.S. Forest Service, digitized by the [Forest History Society](#). July 1999. Retrieved 2009-07-06.
2. 2012 ed. IFC, Section 901.7; 2012 ed. NFPA 101, Sections 9.6.1.6 & 9.7.5
3. <https://foresthistor.org/research-explore/us-forest-service-history/people/chiefs/henry-s-graves-1871-1951/>
4. <https://foresthistor.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/HistoryArchitectureUSDA-Part1.pdf#page=96>





Office of the State Fire Marshal

Door-Locking Devices Guide

Keeping Kansans in our schools and other facilities safe is a top priority for all of us. This guide sheet provides an overview of door locking devices permitted and prohibited by fire code, and which are permitted only *during* intruder situations.

If you come across new devices and have questions, please contact our office at 785-296-3401 or by email at prevention@ks.gov.

You can find additional safety information on our website at FireMarshal.ks.gov.

Locks that currently meet fire code:

We understand that school districts may not have the funding available to spend on expensive hardware. These locks are examples of devices which currently meet fire code.



Outside knob locked or unlocked by key. Inside knob always unlocked.



Push and turn button device. One motion in order to unlock and open the door.



Single motion locking device. Only requires one motion to unlock and open the door.

Prohibited locking devices:

These types of locks and latches are prohibited and do not meet current fire code.



Locking door chain



Barrel bolt



Hasp



Dead bolt/Thumb turn



Drop-in bar



Lockdown panic bar strap



Acceptable devices only DURING intruder situations:

Devices such as the ones below may only be used in an actual active shooter or intruder situation and/or when drills are being performed.

- ♦ Acceptable devices should only be used after training of staff and students has been completed.
- ♦ Barricading of classroom doors as recommended in ALICE training will be allowed.
- ♦ Always be aware that students need the ability to get out in the event of fire.

Having a clear and precise intruder plan that is practiced with local law enforcement and fire departments will help ensure the best protection for students and faculty.

Fire Door Armor enables teachers to immediately lock a door from inside the classroom, as well as allowing first responders to unlock from the outside.



Strip Magnets allow a teacher to quickly secure their classroom by removing the strip magnet from the frame, which latches the door.



Nightlock Lockdown enables teachers to immediately lock a door from inside the classroom.



Barracuda Intruder Defense System for inward swinging doors.



Guardian Angel Door Security Device works on OPEN IN, OPEN OUT and DOUBLE DOOR applications.



**Homemade lockdown devices that function like ones already approved by our office can be used in place of ones listed here. Please submit the device you are wanting to use to our office, and then we will get back with the school to let them know whether it has been approved. Contact prevention@ks.gov for more information.

Acceptable devices only DURING intruder situations: (continued)

The Sleeve fits around the door's closer arm, securing the door from the inside.



Gatamate enables teachers to lock the door quickly only using the foot from the inside.



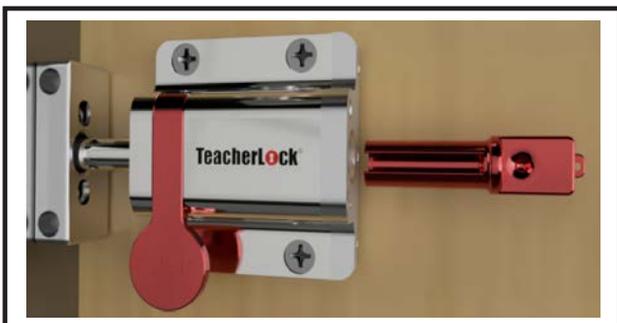
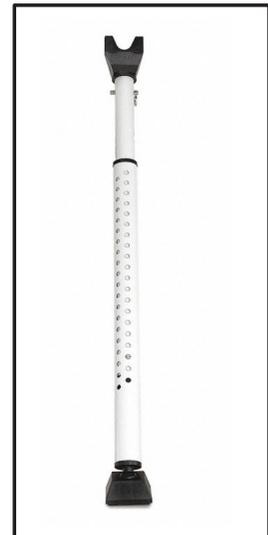
The Bolo Stick is a partially pre-installed device that allows a teacher to drop the pin into place if an intruder situation occurs.



Nightlock Lockdown 2



Master Lock 265D Door Security Bars fit under door knob and easily adjusts for any door height.



TeacherLock is a pre-installed device that activates in less than a second with a specially designed activator key. Also has a breaching key that allows first responders to quickly access the room.



Spring Preparedness in Kansas

Walkways

Spring in the Midwest can be tricky. Spring brings warmer weather, yes; however, it is often deceitful. Kansas spring almost always freezes a few more times before the warmer weather is really in bloom. Once it warms up enough to go out, it's important to shovel the snow from your sidewalks and driveway or sprinkle salt if there is ice. If there is a thick layer of snow on the ground you cannot move, salt the area so that the snow melts. You should also put down salt if there is ice on your stairs leading into your house--less than a quarter inch of ice can be dangerous!

Spring Cleaning

After the leaves have fallen, grass dies, and tree limbs fallen, it is advised in spring to start cleaning these up around the outside of facilities. Piles of dried leaves and vegetation gathered around generators, exit doors, vents, stairways, propane fill stations or propane cages, can not only can cause malfunctions but adds fuel load to an area that does not need to catch fire. It only takes one free flying piece of ash from a grass fire to ignite a pile of dried vegetation. While grass fires happen year-round, spring is notorious for being "grass fire season." Ensuring the perimeter of your facility is protected from unnecessary fuel load can help lessen the chances of fire exposure. While we are on the topic of fuel load, spring is also known for "spring cleaning." There are several codes specifying how much and where storage can, or rather cannot, be placed. Taking time to clear out excess, old, or broken boxes, containers or equipment can keep fuel load to a minimum. This will also ensure if you have a Fire Suppression System i.e., sprinklers, they can work as effectively as possible. A few of the most common citations on excess storage are around electrical panels and breaker boxes, sprinkler heads, egress paths and exits, blockages of exit signs, and storage touching the ceiling or any mechanical devices.

Emergency Preparedness

No matter how much you prepare and practice, you can not predict the type of emergencies a facility might have. However, if you have a general emergency plan of action that is practiced and updated regularly, it makes it much easier to respond during and recover after an emergency. Spring typically brings grass fires, high winds, snow and ice storms, power outages, heat outages, tornadoes, and even flash flooding. The National Weather Service Provides the following recommendations to be prepared during and emergency.

Vehicles- This can be personal or the facilities vehicles. Suggested supplies are jumper cables, first aid kit, blankets, water, snacks, proper winter clothing, flashlight, tow rope, spare tire, and of course a full tank of gas. Even if roadways have been cleared of snow following a storm, any water left on the roadways may freeze, resulting in a clear sheet of ice, also known as black ice. It is most dangerous in the early morning due to below freezing nighttime temperatures.



Loss of heat- Close off any unneeded rooms, stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors, close blinds or curtains, dress in layers, and stay hydrated with water, avoiding caffeinated or alcoholic beverages.

Power Outages- Carbon monoxide poisoning is one of the leading causes of death after storms when areas dealing with power outages. Due to the toxic fumes that are given off, never use a portable generator inside your home or garage.

Flooding- Sometimes floods develop slowly, and forecasters can anticipate where a flood will happen days or weeks before it occurs. Oftentimes flash floods can occur within minutes and sometimes without any sign of rain. Knowing if your location or travel paths are in a floodplain is important. If you are in a floodplain, you should know the quickest route to higher ground. Make sure your sump pump is working and consider having a backup. If it is likely your location will flood, don't wait to be ordered to leave; evacuate yourself! Make alternative plans for a place to stay.

Tornadoes- Create an emergency plan and practice drills regularly so that everyone knows what to do if a tornado is approaching. Don't forget pets! Consider having your safe room reinforced. You can find plans for reinforcing an interior room to provide better protection on the Federal Emergency Management Agency website.

Stay Informed- NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts, and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

References:

<https://www.weather.gov/safety/>



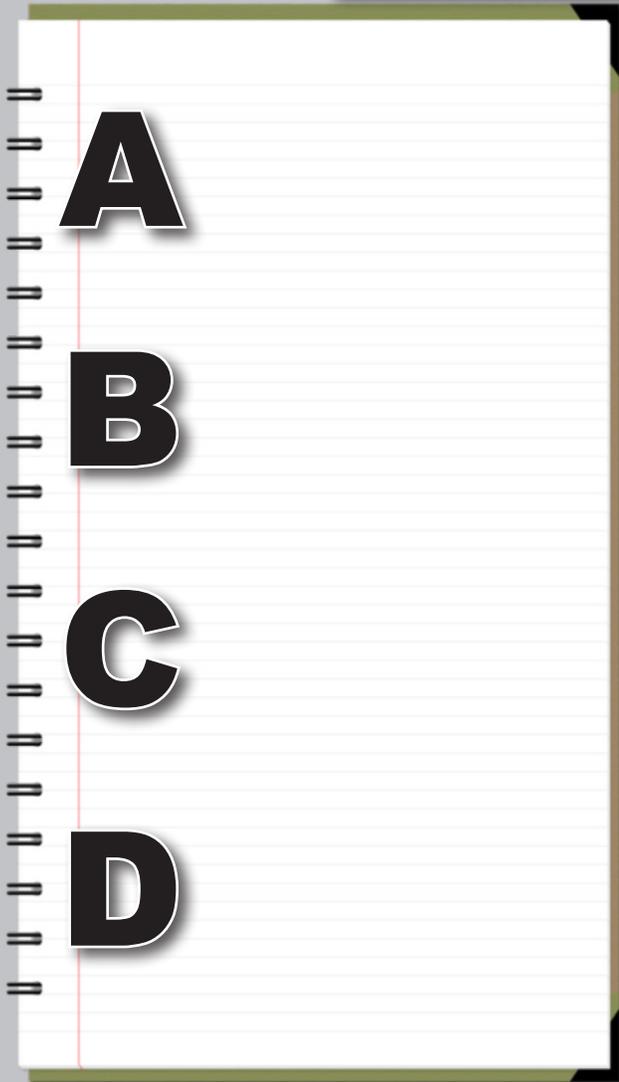
SPOT the violations



A



B



C



D



Answers on Page 12



HOARDING: *Issues for the Fire Service*

Many fire departments are experiencing serious fires, injuries, and deaths as the result of compulsive hoarding behavior. The excessive accumulation of materials in homes poses a significant threat to firefighters fighting fires and responding to other emergencies in these homes and to residents and neighbors.

Often, the local fire department will be contacted to help deal with this serious issue. Since studies suggest that between three and five percent of the population are compulsive hoarders, fire departments must become familiar with this issue and how to effectively handle it.

What is hoarding?

- Collecting or keeping large amounts of various items in the home due to strong urges to save them or distress experienced when discarding them.
- Many rooms in the home are so filled with possessions that residents can no longer use the rooms as designed.
- The home is so overloaded with things that everyday living is compromised.



Why do people become hoarders?

Hoarding is a mental disorder that can be genetic in nature, triggered by traumatic events, or a symptom of another disorder, such as depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, or dementia. Studies have found that hoarding usually begins in early adolescence and gets worse as a person ages. It is more common among older adults.

Why is hoarding an issue for the fire service?

- Hoarding can be a fire hazard. Many occupants die in fires in these homes. Often, blocked exits prevent escape from the home. In addition, many people who are hoarding are injured when they trip over things or when materials fall on them.
- Responding firefighters can be put at risk due to obstructed exits, falling objects, and excessive fire loading that can lead to collapse. Hoarding makes fighting fires and searching for occupants far more difficult.
- Those living adjacent to an occupied structure can be quickly affected when a fire occurs, due to excessive smoke and fire conditions.

In some communities, officials are asking landlords and property owners to inform the local fire service or building commissioner or inspector when they become aware of a hoarding situation that poses a fire safety risk to the occupant or neighbors.

Answers to Spot the Violations (page 11)

A. CURTAIN BLOCKING POINT OF EGRESS; B. HOOD FILTERS UNMAINTAINED; C. UNAPPROVED LOCKING DEVICE IN K-12 SCHOOL; D. DAMAGED LATCHING DEVICE ON FIRE RATED DOOR.



Looking Forward to Summer Cookouts

Much like the call of the cicadas, the smell of food on the grill is a staple of the summer outdoors in Kansas. While grilling is the foundation of many outdoor gatherings, it also has risks that sometimes get overlooked. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fires caused by outdoor grills and barbecues in the US average about 8,700 per year. Not to mention an average of 19,000 patients who go to the emergency room for burns and other grilling related incidents yearly. The question is, how do we enjoy grilling and the food, without burning down the house or ending up in the emergency room?



Location

Where you put your grill is perhaps the most important way to keep your family and property safe while grilling. It might be tempting to grill indoors, but it can create carbon monoxide, which is invisible and harmful. Instead, place your grill at least 10 feet from your house or other combustible material.

Keep it Clean

Your grill should be cleaned in between each use. You need to clean out any food, grease or other buildup that can cause flare-ups and add fuel to potential fires.

Lighting Your Grill

When lighting a gas grill, there are steps you can take to reduce the risk of injuries or property damage. First, open the lid before turning on the gas. This reduces the concentration of gas inside the grill to help prevent a flare up when ignition takes place. Next turn on the gas at the source. Lastly, light your grill immediately following turning on the gas to the burner. This will further reduce the risk of flare-ups.

While some are partial to using charcoal grills, they come with risks as well. Never use gasoline to start a charcoal grill. Gasoline is simply too combustible and using it may result in injury and/or property damage. If you're struggling to start a charcoal grill, try spacing out the charcoal chunks. Spacing them out will increase airflow so they will light more easily. Alternatively, you can use a small amount of charcoal lighter fluid. Charcoal lighter fluid is still flammable, but it's not nearly as combustible as gasoline. It is recommended that you use a grill lighter to start your charcoal grill. Grill lighters are designed specifically for grills. They feature a long neck that's capable of reaching the charcoal at a safe distance. If you use a standard lighter, you'll have to place your hand close to the charcoal when lighting it, which could result in injury. Using a grill lighter is safer because it allows you to light the charcoal at a safe distance.

Never Leave Grill Unattended

Most of us, at one point or another, have left our grills unattended while cooking. In most cases, it just means you'll have burned hamburgers for dinner. But there's also a chance that you could start a fire or small children burn themselves because you've left your grill running without you. Once you start the grill, make sure you can be around to finish the cooking. And remember to keep kids and pets away from the grill. It might seem like common sense, but young kids or pets can get injured easily on a hot grill.

Overloading Your Grill

Grills have a lot of space for a reason. Or so it's easy to assume. Sadly, piling a lot of greasy meats in your grill can mean a grease fire and massive flare ups. Instead, cook smaller portions of meat at a time. You'll be less likely to start a fire, and less likely to burn pounds of meat if you have a fire you can't control.

Putting out a Fire

Whenever dealing with fire, we must be prepared to put it out. If a fire or flare-up occurs, you will want to be ready. Putting out a grill fire can be as simple as having baking soda on hand to smother the fire. Fire extinguishers are another option. Having one available and knowing how to use it can make the difference between keeping a fire inside your grill and losing your home... Or worse! If you are unable to immediately extinguish the fire, don't hesitate to call 911 for professional help.



Grilling Safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

SAFETY TIPS

- » Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- » The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- » Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- » Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- » Never leave your grill unattended.
- » Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

- » There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- » If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- » Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- » There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- » When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

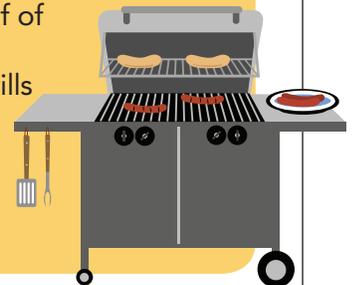
PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. **If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.** Do not move the grill.

If the flame **goes out**, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least **5 minutes** before re-lighting it.

FACTS

- ! July is the peak month for grill fires.
- ! Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

