



The TRUMPET

Kitchen Fire Safety



In this Issue...

- **Covid Lock-Downs Bring Renewed Focus to Kitchen Fire Safety**
- **Fireworks Safety**

FROM THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Covid-19 has changed the way we live and do business, not only in Kansas, but throughout the entire world. As a community, we have persevered through lock-downs, school closings and learning new ways to work. With more of us staying home, I thought this year's Fire Prevention Week theme of "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen," was very fitting.

Summer is upon us, and while everyone is enjoying the warm weather and outdoor activities and celebrating our nation's independence, I want to remind Kansans to follow our fireworks safety tips included in this issue. A few simple precautions can prevent serious injuries and property damage in most circumstances.

As always, thank you for reading *The Trumpet*. We hope you will enjoy it and share it with friends, family and co-workers. We also share many of our safety messages and agency information on our social media pages. So please like and follow us at the links below. If you have any ideas or proposals that could benefit our mutual efforts to create a safer Kansas, please contact me at doug.jorgensen@ks.gov.



Have a safe and happy summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Jorgensen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Doug Jorgensen
State Fire Marshal

STAY CONNECTED



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HOT SPOTS @ OSEM

Susan McMahan Leaves Safe Schools Unit for Emergency Management Position



Susan McMahan

Susan McMahan has left her position as the Director of the Safe and Secure Schools Unit for the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE). She has accepted the position of Wyandotte County Emergency Management Deputy Director.

“Susan and the KSDE have been tremendous partners with us, and we will greatly miss her leadership as she moves into this new chapter,” Doug Jorgensen, State Fire Marshal said. “Her work with the Safe and Secure Schools Unit has been instrumental in making Kansas schools safer.”

McMahan has over 13 years of Emergency Management experience, and she spent the past 20 months recreating the Safe and Secure Schools Unit. The mission of the unit is to assist school districts by helping them build solid foundations of readiness, security and resiliency to withstand ALL-Hazards and anything man-made (intentional or unintentional). The unit partners with the Attorney General’s Office, Kansas Highway Patrol, Kansas Bureau of Investigations, as well as OSFM.

“I am so proud of the work we were able to accomplish for schools in Kansas through all of the collaborations between the unit and other state agencies,” McMahan said. “Our success was dependent on that collaboration.”

McMahan said she was moving on to the new position with Wyandotte County because of her interest and passion for Emergency Management.

“This move will provide another level of expertise to what I love to do,” she said. “I plan on assisting with the transition for my replacement at KSDE. The Safe and Secure Schools Unit is too important not to.”



OUR MISSION

The agency’s mission is to reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through inspection, enforcement, regulation, investigation, education, hazardous material and search & rescue incident responses.

OUR PURPOSE

To reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through:

- Inspection
- Enforcement
- Plans Review
- Fireworks and Explosives Regulation
- Investigation
- Hazardous Material Incident Mitigation
- Public Education
- Coordination of Search and Rescue Efforts

The TRUMPET

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STAY CONNECTED



For a list of OSFM current job openings visit

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



Covid Lock-Downs Bring Renewed Focus to Kitchen Fire Safety

As Fire Prevention Week approaches, OSFM reminds residents: “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!”

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) — the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years — to promote this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!” The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

“We know cooking fires can be prevented,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice-president of outreach and advocacy. “Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions such as electronics or TV are steps everyone can take to keep families safe in their homes.”

The OSFM encourages all residents to embrace the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme.

“The most important step you should take before making a meal is to “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!” Doug Jorgensen, State Fire Marshal, said. “A cooking fire can grow quickly. I have seen many homes damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented.”

OSFM wants to share safety tips to keep you from having a cooking fire.

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling. If you have to leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you’re cooking.
- You have to be alert when cooking. You won’t be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs, or consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.
- Always keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when you’re cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

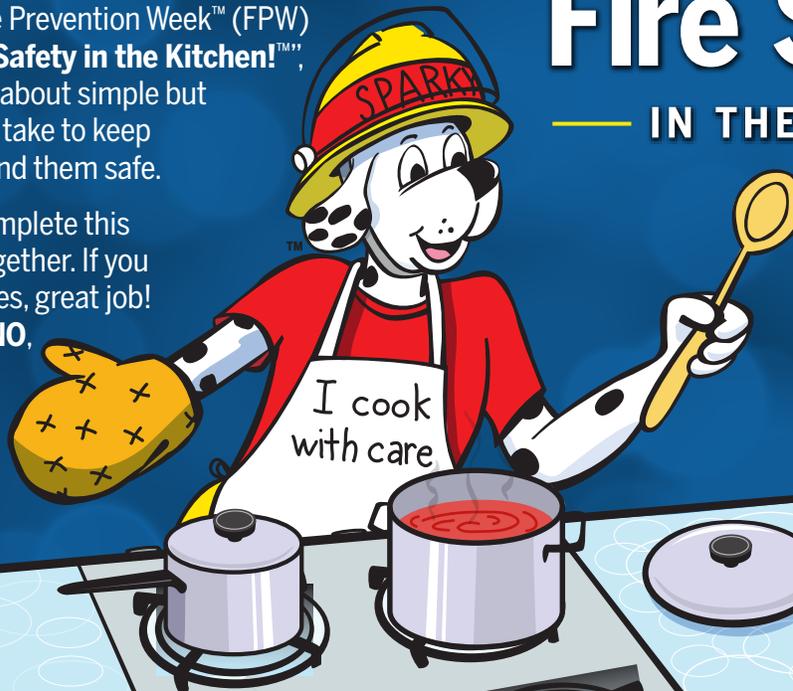
For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking fire prevention, visit www.fpw.org.



Parents and Caregivers,

Cooking is the No. 1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries. This year's Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW) campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!™", works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

FPW is a perfect time to complete this cooking safety checklist together. If you checked **YES** on all the boxes, great job! If some boxes are checked **NO**, work together as a family to turn them into a **YES**.



SERVE UP Fire Safety IN THE KITCHEN!™

The

Family's Cooking Safety Checklist

- YES NO Does a grown-up always pay attention to things that are cooking?
- YES NO Does a grown-up watch the stovetop when he or she is frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food?
- YES NO If a grown-up must leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, does he or she turn off the burner?
- YES NO Are things that can burn, such as dish towels, curtains, or paper, away from the stovetop?
- YES NO Are the stovetop, burners, and oven clean — no spilled food, grease, paper or bags?
- YES NO Are pot handles turned toward the back of the stove when a grown-up is cooking?
- YES NO Do children and pets stay out of the kid-free zone (3 feet or 1 meter from the stove) when a grown-up is cooking?
- YES NO Are containers opened slowly when removing from the microwave? Hot steam can escape from containers and cause burns.
- YES NO Does your family have working smoke alarms on every level of the home, outside all sleeping areas, and in each bedroom?
- YES NO Does your family have a home fire escape plan?
- YES NO Do you practice the plan?



**FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK™**

For more tips, visit firepreventionweek.org and sparky.org
Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA. ©2020 National Fire Protection Association®



Fireworks Safety

More than 130 fireworks-related injuries occurred last year in Kansas

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of the State Fire Marshal and Safe Kids Kansas would, again, like to remind Kansans of the importance of safety this Independence Day.

“While our Fourth of July celebrations will undoubtedly be a little bit different this year, we want to remind everyone the importance of safety this season -- safety for COVID-19 and safety for fireworks,” said Secretary Lee Norman, KDHE Secretary.

First, check with your community concerning mass gatherings/public events and what is permitted.

“This has been a unique year due to the COVID-19 restrictions across the state. As those restrictions are being lifted, we understand many will especially be looking forward to celebrating this year’s Fourth of July,” Doug Jorgensen, Fire Marshal for the State of Kansas, said. “We know the safest way to enjoy fireworks is to view public fireworks displays conducted by trained professionals who know how to properly handle fireworks. For some counties, those displays have been canceled or postponed out of an abundance of caution for COVID-19.”

For those planning to attend gatherings or public events, it’s important to practice social distancing (6 feet or more) from people who are outside of your household as well as to wear face masks during this time.

For those choosing to celebrate at home, it’s important to remember that fireworks are dangerous to both adults and children if not handled properly.

Out of 135 reported fireworks-related injuries in Kansas in 2019, males between the ages of 9 and 34 were the most commonly injured demographic, according to the 2019 Kansas Fireworks Injury Survey. Males represented 65 percent of the total number of injuries. Nearly half of the injuries involved children under the age of 18 and occurred on July 4. Hands, eyes, face and head injuries were among those reported.

“Hand injuries are the most common injury seen in Kansas, at 33 percent,” Cherie Sage, Director of Safe Kids Kansas, said. “It’s really important for little hands to not light fireworks. This includes sparklers, which burn at a temperature hot enough to melt glass. We encourage parents to let their little ones use glow sticks instead of sparklers.”

The data was collected through voluntary reporting from Kansas hospitals and administered by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Bottle rockets and M80s are illegal in Kansas and extremely dangerous. The use or sale of these banned fireworks is considered a crime under Kansas law. It is also illegal in

Kansas to shoot fireworks on or under any vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a fireworks stand or where fireworks are stored, and at gas stations or any place liquid gas – including propane – is stored.

Always refer to the local ordinances as to whether fireworks are allowed in your area as well as what types. Some cities or counties have restricted dates/times or types of fireworks that may be sold or discharged.

For more information on fireworks safety, visit FireMarshal.ks.gov/fireworkssafety or SafeKidsKansas.org. For more information on COVID-19, visit www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus.

Fireworks Safety Tips

- **Use a long-handled lighter**
- **Light from a solid, flat and stable platform**
- **Have an adult supervise all fireworks activities**
- **Always ignite outdoors**
- **Light only one firework at a time**
- **Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks**
- **Make sure fireworks debris is cooled off completely before disposing**
- **Store fireworks in a cool, dry place**



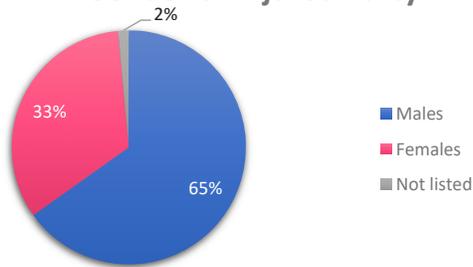
In Kansas...

BY THE NUMBERS

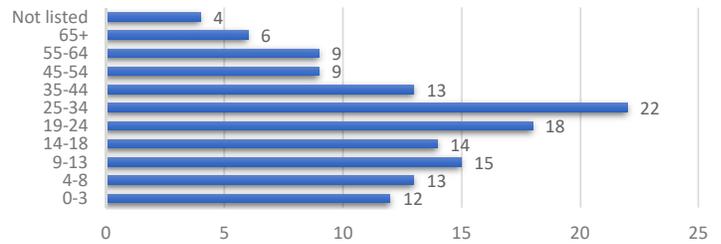
135

Reported fireworks injuries in 2019

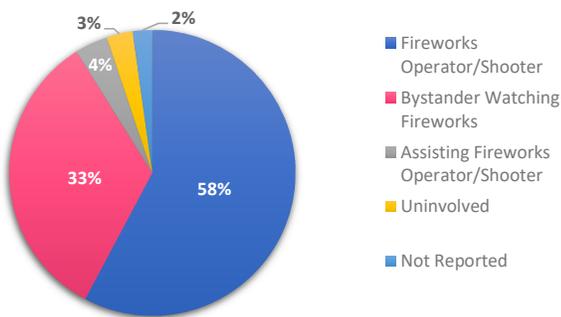
Gender of Injured Party



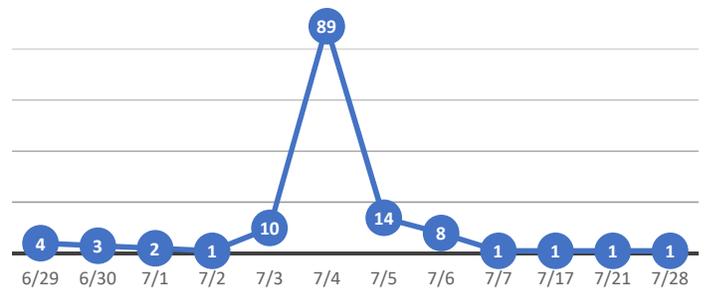
Age of Injured Party



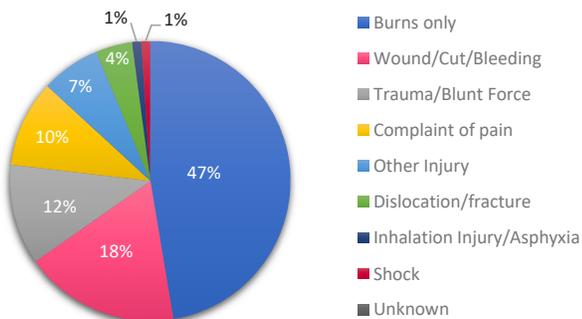
Activity of Injured Party



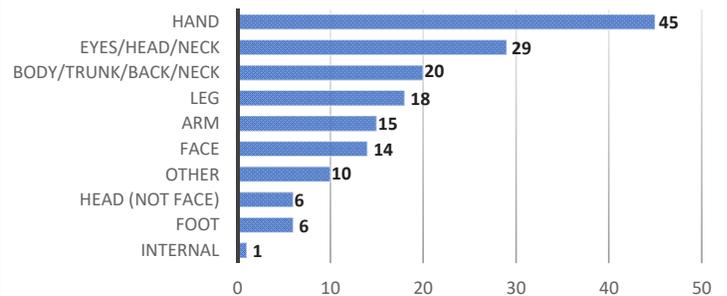
Date of Injury



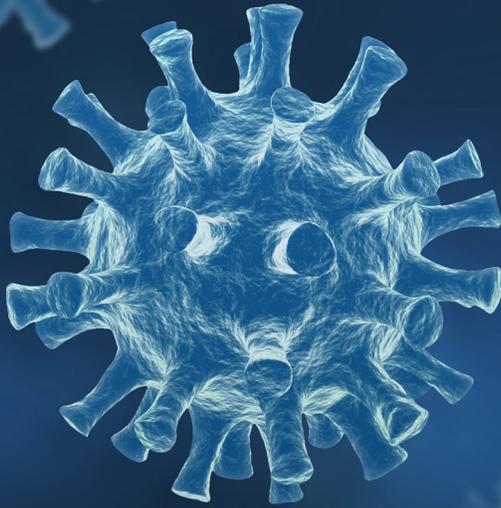
Injury Type



Part of Body Injured



2019 Kansas Fireworks Injury Survey -Data collected through voluntary reporting from Kansas hospitals and administered by the OSFM.



CORONAVIRUS COVID-19



Since March, when the COVID-19 pandemic spread throughout the US, OSFM had to start thinking outside the box of how we could continue to do our jobs and protect and save lives, as well as keeping our employees safe.

The state's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and has been in operation for over 110 days due to the virus. To help control the spread of Covid-19 among the EOC staff and other state agencies, our office has not been physically present in the state EOC since the first day of activation. However, we have been involved in the daily EOC briefings with our federal, state and local partners remotely. Those briefings started with four each day but recently were reduced to two.

We also continue to monitor any potential flooding concerns with the heavy rains that parts of the state have been experiencing and the continued fire danger that the western part of the state battles with the severe drought conditions along the Colorado border.

OSFM volunteered an employee to assist the Governor's office in fielding calls from citizens across the state with their Covid-19 questions and concerns.

Our Prevention Division trained their staff to perform virtual inspections for those facilities that weren't listed in Governor Laura Kelly's Executive Order. When they weren't completing virtual inspections, staff were performing inspections on gas stations and propane facilities. Our Fire Protection Specialists continued to approve construction projects either through virtual inspections or on-sight inspections of unoccupied buildings.

The OSFM Investigations Division continued business as usual and continued to respond to any requests for assistance with fires throughout the state, practicing good social distancing standards and proper PPE in their work.

Our Emergency Response Division maintained situational awareness of the EOC and assisted with sourcing proper amounts of PPE to assist in protecting our employees and personnel. We also provided N95 mask-fitting equipment to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the lead agency for the COVID-19 response.

Overall, our entire agency has done an amazing job in adjusting during this abnormal time, as well as assisting other agencies and Kansans throughout this epidemic.



PREVENTION



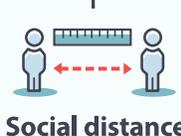
Wash hands



Avoid touching



Wear Mask



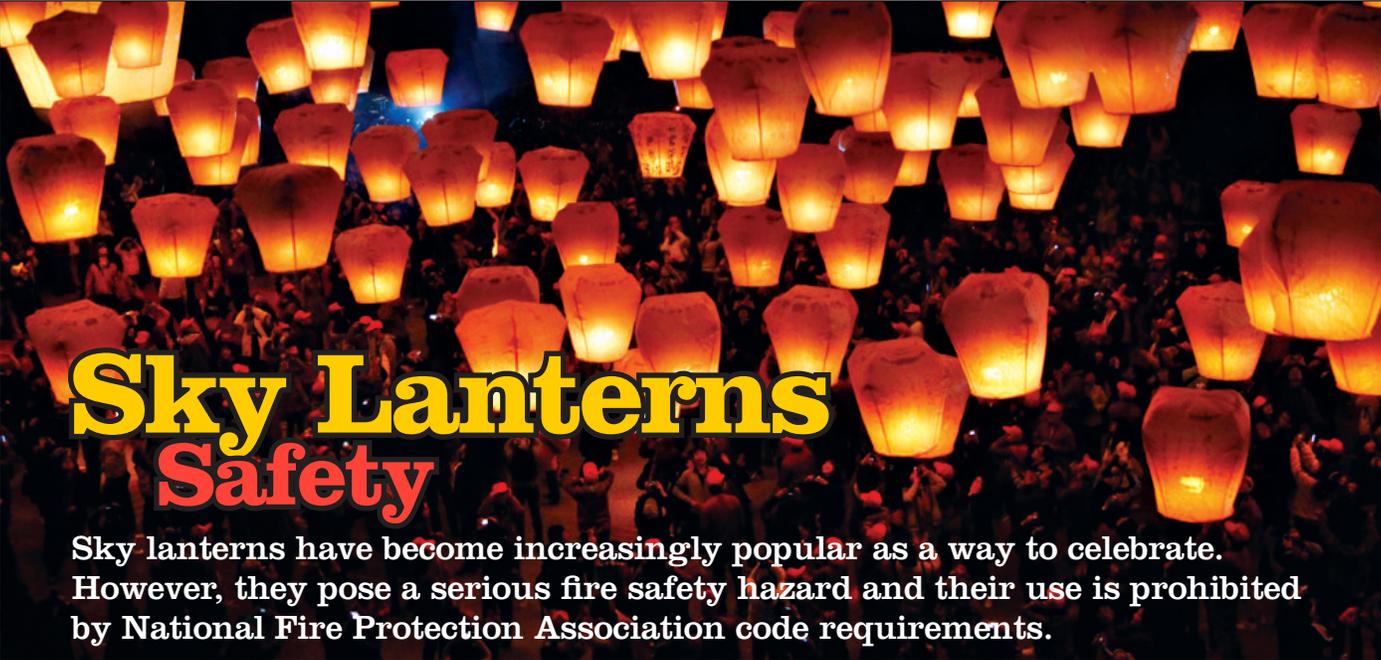
Social distance



Use alcohol based



Stay home



Sky Lanterns Safety

Sky lanterns have become increasingly popular as a way to celebrate. However, they pose a serious fire safety hazard and their use is prohibited by National Fire Protection Association code requirements.

- »» The lanterns are made of oiled rice paper with a bamboo frame, materials that can easily catch on fire.
- »» A candle or wax fuel cell is used with the device.
- »» The lit flame heats the inside of the lantern, causing it to rise into the air.
- »» Once lit and airborne, it can travel over a mile in distance.
- »» Wind can affect the sky lantern, blowing the sides, forcing the hot air out and sending the flaming lantern back to the ground.
- »» These lanterns have the potential to cause fires.
- »» A flaming lantern can drop onto a rooftop, field, trees or power lines before the flame is fully extinguished.
- »» A destructive fire can result when a flaming lantern reaches the ground during dry conditions.
- »» Sky lanterns should not be used under any circumstances.

Recent fires

A **sky lantern** landed on the canopy of a country club, igniting the canopy.

Two sky lanterns landed in forested land impacting valuable wildfire firefighting resources.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



Fire is FAST!

There is little time!

In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house. In minutes, a house can be engulfed in flames. If you wake up to a fire, you won't have time to grab valuables because fire spreads too quickly and the smoke is too thick. There is only time to escape.



Fire is HOT!

Heat is more threatening than flames.

A fire's heat alone can kill. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air will scorch your lungs. This heat can melt clothes to your skin. In five minutes a room can get so hot that everything in it ignites at once: this is called flashover.

Fire is DARK!

Fire isn't bright, it's pitch black.

Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness. If you wake up to a fire you may be blinded, disoriented and unable to find your way around the home you've lived in for years.



Fire is DEADLY!

Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do.

Fire uses up the oxygen you need and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill. Breathing even small amounts of smoke and toxic gases can make you drowsy, disoriented and short of breath. The odorless, colorless fumes can lull you into a deep sleep before the flames reach your door. You may not wake up in time to escape.

Latest Fire Hazard Recalls from CPSC

Name of product:

Edwards Mechanical Heat Detectors

Hazard:

The recalled heat detectors can fail to activate in reaction to rising temperatures, posing a risk of failure to alert consumers to a fire.

Remedy:

Replace

Recall date:

June 17, 2020

Units:

About 85,000



Name of product:

Charging Cable for Relay Screenless Communication Devices

Hazard:

The charging cable can overheat and partially melt, posing a burn hazard.

Remedy:

Replace

Recall date:

June 17, 2020

Units:

About 15,000



Name of product:

Lochinvar condensing residential boilers

Hazard:

The boiler's flue grommet can deteriorate and dislodge during use and allow the boiler to emit carbon monoxide, posing a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Remedy:

Repair

Recall date:

June 18, 2020

Units:

About 34,300 (In addition, about 3,642 units were sold in Canada)



Name of product:

Rainbow SRX Vacuums

Hazard:

The circuit board on the vacuum can spark, posing fire and burn hazards.

Remedy:

Repair

Recall date:

June 17, 2020

Units:

About 38,000 (In addition, about 4,800 sold in Canada)
Consumer Contact:



For more information on these recalls and others and to sign up for direct recall notifications, please visit www.cpsc.gov.

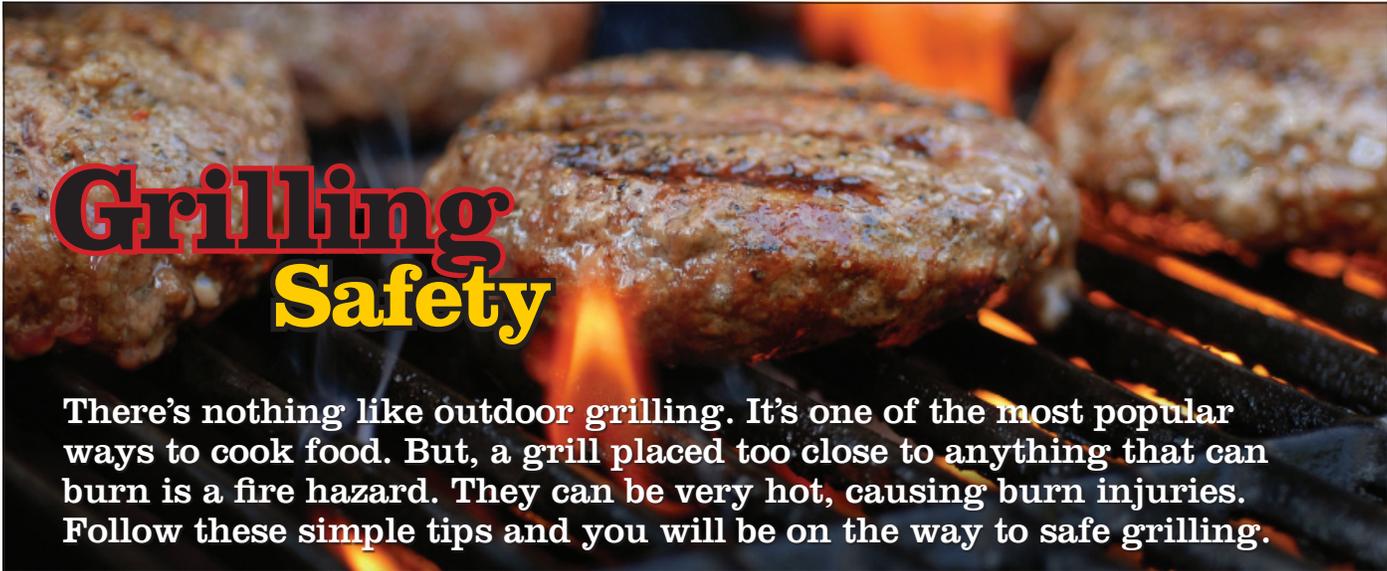
Home Fire Sprinklers

Over 80% of fire deaths occur in the home. Home fire sprinklers can save lives and property from fire. They respond quickly and effectively to fire, often extinguishing the fire before the fire department arrives. Only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate, spraying water on the fire.

FACTS

- ! More than **2,500** people die in home fires each year.
- ! If a home fire occurs, the risk of dying decreases by about **80%** when the home is equipped with a fire sprinkler system.



A close-up photograph of several burgers cooking on a grill over a fire. The text "Grilling Safety" is overlaid on the image in a stylized font.

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.

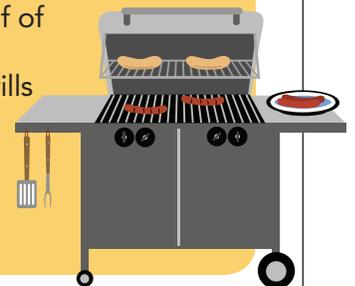
PROPANE Grills

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

