FIRE SAFETY BULLETIN

Barbecue Fire Safety



Department of Environmental Health and Safety — Office of Fire Safety

Review these tips for cooking outdoors so that you can enjoy yourself and stay safe!

Propane Gas Grill

- Locate the grill at least 10 feet away from any building or combustibles.
- Store and use the grill on a flat, nonflammable surface.
- A compatible fire extinguisher must be present.
- The grill must be in proper working order at all times. It should be checked prior to each use. The grill should be cleaned regularly to avoid grease buildup.
- Never leave a grill unattended when in use and keep children away.
- Never start a grill with the lid closed. Gas can accumulate and cause an explosion.
- Never store propane indoors or near any heat source.
- Never wear loose clothing that may catch fire.

Charcoal Grill

- Never use any flammable liquid other than barbecue starter fluid and never apply starter fluid directly to an open flame.
- Remove the charcoal ashes from the grill and place them in a metal container and add water. Do not discard the ashes for 24 hours.
- Never use the grill indoors—it's an obvious fire hazard and it also generates large amounts of carbon monoxide.

IN CASE OF A BARBECUE FIRE

- Turn off burners if using a gas grill. If you can safely reach the tank valve, shut it off.
- If the fire involves the propane tank, evacuate the area and call the fire department.
- If using a charcoal grill, close the lid.
- Never attempt to extinguish a grease fire with water. Use only an approved (ABC) extinguisher.

Note: *Barbecue grills are only permitted on St. John's campuses with permission of Student Life, Conference Services, and Public Safety, and only under the supervision of Chartwells Higher Education and/or Campus Facilities and Services personnel.*

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