



CITY OF BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY WITH GRILLS AND ON DECKS/PATIOS

A barbecued burger is much better than a barbecued balcony! The Burnsville Fire Department would once again like to remind residents of fire safety tips related to grills and decks/patios.

Grilling

- If you use a gas grill, check the gas tubing for blockage by insects, spiders or food drippings at least once a year. Push any blockages through the tube to the main part of the burner with a wire brush.
- Check hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks and replace them if necessary. If you find a leak, **DO NOT** attempt to light the grill until it has been repaired.
- Make sure hoses are far away from hot surfaces that could be exposed to heat or grease droppings.
- Remember, grilling is **not permitted on decks or within 15 feet of most multi-unit housing buildings**. This includes any grills that produce an open flame (i.e. charcoal and propane). Decks and patios are just too close to buildings, and are usually littered with items that can easily catch fire. Many apartments provide an outdoor common area that is ideal, and much safer for grilling.

Careless Smoking on Decks/Patios

In Minnesota, careless smoking results in more than 30 percent of all residential fire-related deaths. While the Burnsville Fire Department discourages smoking on a deck or patio, if you do, please remember the following:

- Dispose of smoking items properly, in a metal fire resistant container
- Store the container away from the house/deck and combustibles
- Do not dispose of butts or ashes in the trash
- Do not use a planter box for ashes or cigarette butts
- Remember, even if you think the cigarette is out, it probably isn't!

For more information contact the Burnsville Fire Department at 952-895-4570 or visit www.burnsville.org/fire.

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