

# BBQ SAFETY



**A BBQ that is too close to items that can burn is a fire hazard. Here are a few tips to help you stay safe and avoid a grilling fire.**



***If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.***



**Orange County  
Fire Authority**

**(714) 573-6200**  
**ocfa.org**



## **Grilling Safety Tips**

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should be used outdoors only.
- Grills should be placed a safe distance from the home, deck railings, tables, overhanging branches, and areas where people gather.
- 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 grates and in the trays below the grill.
- Never leave a heated grill, lighter, or matches unattended.

## **Charcoal Grills**

- If you use starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire while cooking.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool (for about 48 hours) before disposing in a metal container.

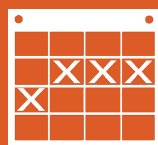
## **Propane Grills**

- Check the gas tank hose for leaks before grilling.
- If your grill has a gas leak, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If a leak occurs while grilling, call the fire department.
- If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before re-lighting it.

**ON AVERAGE, THERE ARE 10,200 GRILLING FIRES PER YEAR**



**89%**  
started by gas grills



**57%**  
occur May-Aug



**160**  
injuries per year



**\$123 MILLION**  
property damage