



Fire Department

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

## GRILLING SAFETY

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fires caused by gas- or charcoal-fired grills account for over 900 home structure fires and 3,500 outdoor fires. With warm weather here, and the increase in outdoor grilling, the Milwaukee Fire Department asks people to be careful when grilling.

### OUTDOOR GRILLING SAFETY TIPS:

- Ø Use grills only outdoors, and extreme care must be taken if used in a tent.
- Ø **Keep grills away from structures, decks, siding, or overhangs.**
- Ø Keep grills away from games and other activities.
- Ø Have a three foot "safety zone" around grills.
- Ø If using charcoal, use only approved lighter fluid, and keep lighter fluid away from children.
- Ø NEVER add lighter fluid to a burning fire.
- Ø DO NOT place hot coals in your garbage can.
- Ø If using gas grills, keep them in good working order.
- Ø When not in use, turn off gas bottles.
- Ø Use safe handling procedures when handling raw meat.
- Ø Do not leave food out for more than one hour in warm weather.

**The Milwaukee Fire Department wants everyone to have a safe and enjoyable summer. Help keep Milwaukee fire safe.**

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