



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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Grilling Safety Tips

General Grilling Tips

Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.

Grills should be placed a minimum of 10 feet away from homes, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

Never leave grills unattended and always keep children and pets away from grilling areas.

Propane Grills

Before you use your grill for the first time each year, be sure it is working properly and ready for use.

Check the major connection points between the gas (propane) tank hose and the regulator and cylinder, and where the hose connects to the burners.

Check the gas (propane) tank hose for potential (gas) leaks by

- Turning the propane tank

on. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose using a brush or spray bottle. If there is a gas leak, the propane will release bubbles around the hose (big enough to see).

- Once you determine your



grill has a leak, turn off the gas tank and burners. If the leaks stop have it properly serviced, if the leak continues, call 911.

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.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.

When you finish grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container. NEVER PLACE CHARCOAL (hot or cold) in plastic or paper containers.

National Fire Protection Association

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/consumers/outdoors/grilling/grilling-safety-tips>

Fire Safety Word Search

SLGMLDQDCADIELNOTV
 QVNPEZEFPCPQICTZOWGR
 RPJSMDYTLEMTWEHNZEQ
 ZKEEPICYHZMETOAARE
 DVESZAQEMCCHILDRENQ
 HQTEVJWEVBDKTESQPEZQ
 HVEGIPLANDQECGEDPETS
 AWAYEOTEALJDDAOLVAQ
 FROMFIDLVDSEJGRILLS

Fire Safety Quiz

If the flames goes out on the propane grill, turn the grill and gas off and wait at Least _____ before re-lighting it.

- A- 30 minutes
- B- 60 minutes
- C- 15 minutes
- D- 5 minutes

Which month is the peak month for grill fires?

- A- May
- B- June
- C- July
- D- August

Correct Answers: 1: C, 2: C

The Valdosta Fire Department is committed to keeping the business and residential communities safe.

Grilling by the Numbers

- Three out of five households own a gas grill
- Each year an average of 8,000 homes fires are caused by grilling
- One of every six home

fires in which grills were involved in ignition, something that could catch fire was too close to the grills

- Leaks and breaks were factors in one of every reported grill fire.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Sergeant Chris Staples at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to valdostafire@valdostacity.org



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief