

FIRE PITS

Fire pits are known to be a great source of warmth and ambience. With the popularity of fire pits increasing, fire safety has become even more important. There are many things you should consider while setting up and using a fire pit.

- ◆ Keep away from flammable material and fluids such as gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, charcoal lighter fluid or vehicles while in use.
- ◆ Do not use flammable fluids such as gasoline, alcohol, diesel fuel, kerosene and charcoal lighter fluid to light or relight fires.
- ◆ Exercise the same precautions you would with an open fire.
- ◆ Do not allow children to use the fire pit. Keep children and pets away.
- ◆ Do not wear flammable or loose fitting clothing, such as nylon.
- ◆ Do not burn trash, leaves, paper, cardboard or plywood.
- ◆ Avoid using soft wood such as pine or cedar that likely pop and throw sparks. Use of seasoned hardwood is suggested.
- ◆ Before starting the fire, check the wind direction.
- ◆ Keep a fire extinguisher or garden hose nearby.

CAMPFIRES

- ◆ **DO NOT** build a fire at a site in hazardous, dry conditions. **DO NOT** build a fire if the park, campground, area or event rules prohibit campfires.
- ◆ If there is not an existing fire pit or grill, look for a site that is at least fifteen feet away from tent walls, shrubs, trees or other flammable objects. Also beware of low-hanging branches overhead.
- ◆ Supervise children while near the campfire. Do not allow them to play in the fire. Keep pets away from the campfire.

FIRST AID FOR BURNS



- ◆ **Stop, Drop and Roll** to extinguish a clothing fire.
- ◆ **Cool the burn.** For minor burns, run cool (not cold) water immediately over the burn. Don ' t put ice on the burn.
- ◆ **Cover the burn** with a sterile gauze bandage. Don ' t use fluffy cotton or other material that will get lint in the wound. Wrap the gauze loosely to avoid putting pressure on burned skin.
- ◆ **Take an over-the-counter pain reliever.** These include aspirin, ibuprophen, naproxen or acetaminophen. Use caution when giving aspirin to children.
- ◆ **Seek emergency medical help** for serious burns.

Grand Island Fire Department

Summer

Fire Safety

Tips



FIRE SAFETY
We all take part

GRILLING AND CAMPFIRES

Every year, Americans look forward to summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics and the Fourth of July. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to outdoor cooking and recreational fires.

Annually, there are almost 3,800 Americans injured by gas or charcoal fires.

Summertime should be a time of fun and making happy memories.

Knowing a few fire safety tips and following safety instructions will help everyone have a safe summer.

RESIDENTIAL GRILL FIRE FACTS

- ◆ An estimated 5,700 grill fires occur on residential properties each year in the United States.
- ◆ Almost half (49 percent) of grill fires on residential properties occur from 5 to 8 p.m.
- ◆ Over half (57 percent) of grill fires on residential properties occur in the months of May, June July and August.
- ◆ Thirty-two percent of grill fires on residential properties start on patios, terraces, screened-in porches or courtyards.



- ◆ Propane and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.
- ◆ Place the grill well away from siding, deck railing and out form under eaves and overhanging branches.
- ◆ Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.
- ◆ Keep children and pets from the grill area: declare a three-foot "safe zone" around the grill.
- ◆ Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames while cooking.
- ◆ Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below the grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.

- ◆ Check the propane cylinder hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will reveal escaping propane quickly by creating bubbles.
- ◆ If you determined your grill has a gas leak by smell or the soapy bubble test and there is no flame:
 - * Turn off the propane tank and grill
 - * If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
 - * If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.
- ◆ If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.

DIAL 911

Grand Island Fire Department

100 East First Street, Grand Island, NE 68801
308-385-5444, Ext. 220

- ◆ Station 1
409 E. Fonner Park Rd. 385-5300
- ◆ Station 2
1720 N. Broadwell Ave. 385-5310
- ◆ Station 3
2310 S. Webb Road 385-5337
- ◆ Station 4
3690 W. State St. 385-5387