

# Grilling & BBQ Safety in Multi-Family Communities

## National Grilling Statistics

- Careless outdoor cooking causes 9,600 home fires each year.
- 16,000 patients are seen in the Emergency Room annually for injuries involving grills.
- Roughly half of the injuries are severe thermal burns.



## Safety Tips

- Grills should never be used indoors.
- Grills are REQUIRED to be at least 10 feet from any structure, including decks and porches.
- Grills are NEVER allowed to be used on a deck or porch.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grilling area.
- Always clean your grill by removing grease and fat buildup.
- NEVER leave a grill unattended.
- ALWAYS make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting.
- Only use approved charcoal starter fluid to light your BBQ.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of reach of children and other heat sources.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals cool completely before disposing.
- Only use a metal container to dispose of used coals.
- Check hoses and fittings on gas grills for leaks prior to use.

**City of Portsmouth Fire Department**

**Fire Prevention Bureau**

(603) 427-1515

*National Fire Protection Association (2017)*