

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY

Fireworks



U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA

Every year in the United States, we celebrate the Fourth of July with community parades, picnics, barbecues, and fireworks - the things of which happy memories are made. But sadly, Independence Day also includes tragic events resulting from fireworks use. The safest way to enjoy them is through public displays conducted by professional pyrotechnicians hired by communities.

Learning fireworks safety tips can help ensure that everyone has a happy and safe summer holiday.

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/fireworks.shtm>

By the Numbers: Fireworks

- 30,100 Estimated number of fires caused by fireworks each year
- 7,000 Estimated number of injuries caused by fireworks in 2008
- 7 Fireworks-related deaths occurred in 2008
- \$34 million Amount of direct property loss caused by fireworks

Sources: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).



FIRE FACTS

Safe BBQ's

Safe Tips to ensure a Safe BBQ this summer ...

- Use the grill at least 10 feet away from any structure;
- Never leave the grill unattended;
- Never use gasoline or kerosene to light a charcoal fire;
- Never attempt to restart a flame by adding additional lighting fluid to an already-lit grill, as this can cause a flare-up;
- Dispose of charcoal away from kids and pets, and cool it down with a hose. Coals get HOT-up to 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit!

- When grilling use insulated, flame-retardant mitts or long-handled barbecue tongs and utensils.

Gas grill safety tips

- Check the grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks. Make sure there are no kinks in the hose or tubing;
- Check the tubes leading into the burner for any blockages from insects, spiders, or grease. Use a pipe cleaner or wire to clear any obstruction and pass it through to the main part of the burners;



- Check for gas leaks, following the manufacturer's instructions, if you smell gas, particularly when you reconnect the grill to the propane tank. Never use a match to check for leaks; instead, immediately turn off the gas, and don't attempt to light the grill again until the leak is fixed.