

## Fooled Ya!

I bet everyone thought I would post about the first day of Fall, or maybe post some great fall recipes, huh? Nope, not going to happen, not until the leaves are falling and sweaters are out. I'm still hanging onto the last few days of beautiful outdoor weather! After all did we discard our sweaters and put away our Blankets on the first day of spring? I think not, especially for those who live in the Midwest! And why did we not do that.... simply because Mother Nature was not cooperating with us, that's why. Therefore until she screams "it's cold out" and chills my bones, I'm still celebrating fabulous weather. The reality is I am not ready to let go of summer yet, therefore I'm hosting one last outdoor bash next weekend; it'll be my final farewell to dining Al Fresco, which I so love! My dear friend Lauren, who's addicted to dining Al Fresco, taught me to never eat indoors, sans a monsoon or snow blizzard!

A few great tips to Dining Al fresco (in early Fall)

- Always have a fire nearby, if you don't have a great fire pit built in your patio (which I don't) you can certainly buy an inexpensive one at A Home Depot or Lowes. Trust me even the inexpensive one last!
- Make sure your guest know you're dining outdoors so they can dress appropriately and throw a few smaller blankets in a basket to keep outside so guest can use! They will really appreciate that!
- It gets dark earlier this time of the year, so have plenty of good lighting and or candles available, however be sure not to kill the mood with too much light.
- Keep the menu light and easy to eat, dining out doors should be fun and casual, you really don't need place cards when outdoors!
- Beverages should be kept cool in coolers or beverages dispensers with plenty of ice available, set up a designated table for drinks!
- Music is a must it keeps the party ambiance outside fewer guest will be willing to go indoors when the real party is happening outside.

Enjoy this beautiful time of the year!