



SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY

Life Safety Bureau

9195 E Mineral Ave, Centennial, CO 80112

PHONE: 720.989-2230 www.southmetro.org FAX: 720.969-2030



Use of Barbecue Grills on Apartment & Condominium Balconies



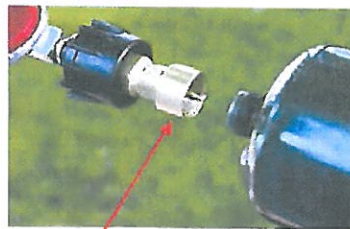
Each year, thousands of costly and deadly fires occur in apartments and condominiums due to the use of barbecue grills on balconies. These fires often result from the improper disposal of charcoal briquettes, the malfunction of propane cylinders and hoses, and allowing flames to get too close to the building. These fires can spread undetected and threaten the lives and homes of everyone in these multi-family structures.



The South Metro Fire Rescue Authority operates under the International Fire Code (IFC). It is the responsibility of the occupants and building ownership to stay in compliance with code requirements governing open-flame cooking devices such as charcoal, natural gas, and propane grills:

Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

Exceptions:



- ✓ Propane grills with a cylinder capacity up to 1 pound of L.P.-gas are allowed. These would include small “camping” style grills or larger “standard” grills fitted with a 1 pound LP-gas cylinder adapter.
- ✓ If your building and balcony are protected by fire sprinklers, then you are *not limited* to a 1 pound LP-gas cylinder.
- ✓ Grills of all types are *unrestricted* at single-family homes and townhomes.



South Metro Fire Rescue Authority will work with building owners and property managers to ensure tenants are informed of these prohibitions through rental agreements, signs, newsletters, etc. We also encourage the installation of community grilling areas to provide residents with an alternative and convenient way of continuing to enjoy grilling.

Please contact the Life Safety Bureau at (720) 989-2230 if you have any questions.