



SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY

Life Safety Bureau

9195 E Mineral Ave, Centennial, CO 80112
PHONE: 720.989-2230 www.southmetro.org FAX: 720.989-2030

Use of Barbeques at Apartments & 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 LP-gas are allowed. These would include small “camping” style grills.
- ✓ 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 not restricted 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