



TOWN OF ISLIP – BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

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Outdoor Barbecuing & Grilling Requirements



Town residents are reminded that the New York State Fire Code section 308.7 specifically states: "Charcoal burners and other open flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction. Exceptions include one and two family dwellings and balconies or decks that are protected by an automatic sprinkler system."

The code also regulates LP Gas fueled grills in section 308.7.1 stating: "LP-gas burners having a LP-gas container with a water capacity greater than 2.5 pounds (nominal 1 pound (0.45kg) LP-gas capacity) shall not be located on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction." Exceptions include one and two family dwellings.

What does this mean?

Gas and charcoal barbecues are prohibited on decks and balconies in multiple dwellings.

REMEMBER...

- If grilling on a combustible apartment balcony or deck, use an electric grill.
- Keep children away from grilling area.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use grilling tools that give the chef plenty of clearance from heat.
- Don't leave cooking unattended.
- Allow the grill to cool completely before moving it.

If the code allows the use of charcoal and gas fueled grills (one and two family dwellings):

- Make sure lighter fluid is stored properly, preferably in a cabinet in a garage or shed.
- Store charcoal in a dry location.
- Inspect your grill's valves, burner and hoses for rot holes, rust, or any other damage prior to each use.
- Store grill in a safe place. Propane should never be stored inside any building or close to building openings.
- If using charcoal or wood, properly dispose of ashes in a metal container with a lid, and never bring indoors or store near the structure.

Did you know...?

- In 2005, gas and charcoal grills caused 3,400 structure fires and 4,900 outdoor fires in or on home properties, resulting in a combined direct property loss of \$137 million.
- Over one-third (35%) of all gas and charcoal grill home structure fires begin on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch.
- Charcoal-fueled or other solid-fueled grills caused an estimated 600 home structure fires and 500 home outdoor fires in 2005.
- Gas-fueled grills caused an estimated 2,800 home structure fires and 4,400 home outdoor fires in 2005.