



Department of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal

John R. Kasich, Governor
David Goodman, Director

8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

www.com.ohio.gov

Summer Fire Safety Tips

As Ohioans prepare for the start of summer this Memorial Day weekend, the Division of State Fire Marshal is encouraging citizens to take added safety precautions with fireworks, outdoor grills and campfires and to follow some important safety tips:

Fireworks Safety

- The only types of fireworks that can be legally purchased and discharged in Ohio are trick and novelty devices. These include items that smoke, sparkle, snap and snake.
- Handle and discharge trick and novelty devices only under adult supervision.
- Appoint one adult to be in charge. This person should know the hazards of each type of firework being used.
- Carefully read and follow the label directions on the trick and novelty device packaging.
- Light only one sparkler at a time and hold it away from your body and others.
- Sparkler wires, which can burn up to 1800 degrees, should immediately be placed in a bucket of water to avoid injury as they remain hot for a few minutes after burnout.
- If someone gets burned, run cool water over the wound for two or three minutes and seek medical attention when necessary.

Campfire Safety

- Build campfires where they will not spread; away from dry grass, leaves and never under overhanging trees.
- Keep campfires small, and don't let them get out of hand.
- Keep plenty of water and a shovel around to douse the fire when you're done. Stir it and douse it again with water.
- Never leave campfires unattended.
- It is important to follow the park's rules for the use and extinguishing of campfires.
- Never start a campfire without having the equipment and ability to extinguish it.

Barbecue Safety

- Before using a grill, check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line.
- Do not overfill the propane tank.
- Do not wear loose clothing while cooking at a barbecue.
- Be careful when using lighter fluid. Do not add fluid to an already lit fire because the flame can flashback up into the container and explode.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children. Teach your children to report any loose matches or lighters to an adult immediately. Supervise children around outdoor grills.
- Dispose of hot coals properly - douse them with plenty of water, and stir them to ensure that the fire is out. Never place them in plastic, paper or wooden containers.
- Never grill/barbecue in enclosed areas - carbon monoxide could be produced.
- Make sure everyone knows to Stop, Drop and Roll in case a piece of clothing does catch fire. Call 911 or your local emergency number if a burn warrants medical attention. All burns to the face, hands, feet or groin require medical attention.