



# DALLAS FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## INSPECTION & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION DIVISION

1551 BAYLOR ST., SUITE #400, DALLAS, TX 75226  
MAIN OFFICE – 214-670-4319 | FAX – 214-670-4324



### **OPEN FLAME COOKING DEVICES**

This checklist is intended to assist you in preparation of your inspection and provide some of the basic regulations governing the safe operation of an open flame cooking device. This is **NOT** a complete list of all Dallas Fire Code (DFC) requirements and your inspector may bring to your attention other necessary corrections. If you have a particular question or concern, please contact our main office.

**“308.1.4 Open-flame cooking and heating devices.** Open flame cooking devices, charcoal grills and other similar devices used for cooking shall not be located or used on combustible balconies, decks, or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

**Exceptions:**

1. One- and two-family dwellings, except that LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50 pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20 pound (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity] with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 100 lbs (5 containers).
2. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an approved *automatic sprinkler system*, except that LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50 pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20 pound (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity], with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 40 lbs (2 containers).
3. LP-gas cooking or heating devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2 1/2 pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].” (2016 Dallas Fire Code)

#### KEEP YOUR GRILL AT LEAST 10 FEET FROM STRUCTURE

- Make sure you're away from your house, garage and shed, and avoid grilling under eaves or patio coverings. Also check for any overhead tree branches that could catch fire in the event of a flare up.

#### STABILIZE YOUR GRILL

- Your grill should be on a flat surface and not be at risk for moving, sliding or toppling over.

#### KEEP PETS AND CHILDREN AWAY FROM THE GRILL

- Separate your grilling workspace from play areas where kids and animals might be running at full speed. Teach young kids the importance of avoiding the grill and being mindful of where they're throwing balls and other toys.

#### WEAR PROPER CLOTHING

- Roll up sleeves, tuck in your shirt and pull your hair back if necessary. Make sure apron strings are tied and secured.

#### KEEP YOUR GRILL CLEAN

- Follow your grill's instruction manual for proper maintenance. Use a good grill brush to clean grates before and after each use. Periodically remove buildup in grease trays while grilling.

#### KEEP A FIRE EXTINGUISHER WITHIN CLOSE REACH

- Having a fire extinguisher and knowing how to use it is vitally important. However, even small fires can spread quickly so your biggest concern is getting yourself and others to safety and calling for help.

#### DON'T LEAVE A LIT GRILL UNATTENDED

- Prep everything you need before you start the grilling action.

### **LEADING CAUSES OF FIRE**

<b>FAILURE TO CLEAN GRILL</b>	<b>GRILL TOO CLOSE TO A STRUCTURE</b>	<b>LEAVING THE GRILL UNATTENDED</b>	<b>A GAS LEAK OR BREAK</b>
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REVISED – DECEMBER 17, 2020

THE ABOVE REFERENCED DFC CITATIONS ARE IN RELATION TO THE ADOPTED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2015 IFC UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.