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for your well-being

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A TIP FOR TENNESSEANS

June 27, 2017

6 GRILLING SAFETY TIPS FOR SUMMER

It's barbeque season! And what goes better with warmer weather than the smell of something good on the grill? Enjoy a sizzling summer by staying **fire and food safe** with these tips:¹

1. **Only grill outdoors.** And be sure to keep your grill away from siding and deck rails.
2. **Make a safe zone.** Keep a clear three-foot safety area around your grill to protect kids and pets.
3. **Open the lid.** Before lighting a gas grill, always open the lid first.
4. **Watch as you cook.** Keep an eye on your grill and cooking area. Never leave them unattended.
5. **Clean after use.** Use a grill brush to clean racks after each use. Doing so will remove grease that can start a fire.
6. **Dump coals safely.** Place used charcoal in a metal can with a lid once they've completely cooled.

Did you know...?

Nearly 60 percent of home grill fires happen in the months of May, June, July and August.¹

Ready. Set. Grill.

Check your grill before use to make sure it's working properly.¹

If you use a gas grill:



Use your resources.

Sign in to your [Well-Being Account](#) and search the recipe library for new, healthy, grilled dishes.



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- Check the gas tank hose for possible leaks. Learn how this simple [soap bubble test](#) can help you find a leak.²
- As you cook, if you smell gas, turn off the gas tank and burners.
- If the leak stops right away, get it professionally serviced before using it again.
- If the smell continues, move away from the grill and call the fire department immediately. Do not move the grill.

If you use a charcoal grill:

There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use.

- Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

If you use a public grill:

To make grills at public parks safer to use:

- Scrub off the grates with a grill brush or wadded up piece of foil.
- Heat the grill.
- Poke holes in a sheet of foil.
- Lay the foil sheet on the grill using tongs or a spatula.



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References:

¹ "Grilling Fire Safety." U.S. Fire Administration, Web. 12 May 2017. | ² "Grilling Safety Tips." National Fire Protection Association, Web. 12 May 2017.

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