



## 24.01.01.D1.07

## Outdoor Burning

Approved: June 30, 2016

Revised:

Next Scheduled Review: June 30, 2019

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### Procedure Statement

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The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulates outdoor burning (30 TAC 111.201-221). Along with the TCEQ regulations, local restrictions, and procedures guide outdoor burning activities. All departments at Texas A&M University - Central Texas (A&M-Central Texas) will follow the Outdoor Burning Procedures administered by the Office of Safety & Risk Management.

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### Reason for Procedure

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This procedure addresses outdoor burning rules and procedures to ensure the protection of persons and property at A&M-Central Texas.

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### Procedures and Responsibilities

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#### 1. OUTDOOR BURNING ACTIVITIES

1.1 Any department requesting outdoor burning must contact the Department of Safety and Risk Management a minimum of 5 business days prior to the scheduled burn day for approval of outdoor burning.

1.2 Outdoor burning activities could include:

1.2.1 Outdoor grilling

1.2.2 Burning of brush piles

1.2.3 Burning of natural vegetation

1.2.4 Burning of grass

1.2.5 Burning of limbs

#### 2. AUTHORIZED OUTDOOR BURNING

- 2.1 All outdoor burning will be coordinated through the Office of Safety & Risk Management and the Texas Forest Service (TFS) and must comply with TCEQ, Bell County Burn Bans, and A&M-Central Texas requirements, which could include, but are not limited to:
  - 2.1.1 No faculty, staff, or student organization is ever authorized to conduct outdoor burning with the exception of outdoor grilling.
  - 2.1.2 A fire break must be established and approved of ahead of time by the Office of Safety & Risk Management and TFS.
  - 2.1.3 Burning will not take place, with the exception of grilling, if there are any local burn bans in affect.
  - 2.1.4 A designated responsible person must attend the burning at all times during the active burn phase.
  - 2.1.5 No prescribed burning can be done if the wind speed is predicted to greater than 23 mph.
  - 2.1.6 Electrical insulation, treated lumber, plastics, non-wood construction/demolition material, heavy oil, asphalt materials, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber may not be burned.

### 3. AUTHORIZED OUTDOOR GRILLING

- 3.1 For activities associated with outdoor grilling, the following guidelines must be followed:
  - 3.1.1 A representative of the group or department requesting outdoor grilling must review the Barbeque Grill Safety Tips presentation and complete the Authorization for Outdoor Grilling request form no less than 5 business days prior to the event.
  - 3.1.2 A designated responsible person must attend the grilling at all times during the active burn phase (while grilling is performed).
  - 3.1.3 If mobile grills are used, transportation of such grills cannot take place until all materials are cooled and no longer in the burn phase. This includes outdoor grills on trailers (pull behinds).
    - 3.1.3.1 Users are responsible for removal and clean-up of all on-site trash (including coals) prior to leaving the area.
  - 3.1.4 Approval must be gained from the following departments before outdoor grilling can take place:
    - 3.1.4.1 Sponsoring VP/Dean/Department Director/Supervisor.

3.1.4.2 Office of Safety & Risk Management or the University Police  
Department if the Safety & Risk Management Officer is not available.

#### 4. REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTDOOR GRILLING

- 4.1 Grills must have a lid.
- 4.2 Fire extinguisher(s) must be present.
- 4.3 A copy of the completed and signed A&M-Central Texas Authorization for Outdoor Grilling form must be present at the grill site.
- 4.4 Only charcoal or propane grilling is authorized.
- 4.5 All grills must have a pan/can to collect drippings. Clean up of any stains on sidewalks or roadways are the responsibility of the user.
- 4.6 Grilling cannot take place within 10 feet of combustible materials (walls, curtains, overhead ceiling, trash cans, landscape, etc.).
- 4.7 Grilling cannot take place on sidewalks or patios.
- 4.8 A designated responsible individual must be present at all times while the grill is used and must verify that all coals or heat sources are put out before leaving the grill.
- 4.9 Portable grills (trailer type) must not be moved while there is an active heat source. Grills cannot remain onsite overnight.
- 4.10 During active burn bans, safe disposal of charcoal is important. Do not allow the coals to set overnight unattended to cool off. Refer to section 5.1.3.

#### 5. DISPOSAL OF CHARCOAL FOR GRILLS.

- 5.1 Ensure all flames have diminished.
- 5.2 Allow coals to cool for no less than 24 hours before disposal. Grills must be attended at all time until coals are cool, including monitoring overnight if necessary.
- 5.3 If grilling during active burn bans:
  - 5.3.1 Let the coals cool in the grill for at least 1 hour.
  - 5.3.2 Soak coals in water for not less than 15 minutes. All coals must be completely covered in water, with a minimum of 1 inch of water above the coals.

5.4 Dispose of coals in approved steel trash container. Do not dispose of coals on the ground or in plastic trash containers. Never dispose of coals directly into dumpsters.

## 6. DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS, DEANS, SUPERVISORS, AND MANAGERS.

6.1 The VP, Dean, Department Director, Supervisor, or Designated Responsible Person is responsible for:

6.1.1 Contacting the Office of Safety and Risk Management no less than 5 business days prior to the burning activity.

6.1.2 Ensuring all requirements above are understood and followed.

6.1.3 Ensuring a designated responsible person is present during the active burn phase.

6.1.4 Ensuring proper safety equipment and personal protective equipment is available for all individuals.

6.1.5 Posting a copy of the Authorization for Outdoor Grilling at the burn site.

6.1.6 The VP, Dean, Department Director, Supervisor, or Designated Responsible Person may notify the University Police Department (UPD) of their intent to burn, if the Safety & Risk Management Officer is not available.

## 7. SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICE

7.1 The Safety & Risk Management Officer will notify the following agencies, prior to burning, of the universities intent to conduct any outdoor burning activities (excluding outdoor grilling):

7.1.1 The University Police Department.

7.1.2 The City of Killeen Fire Department, if necessary.

7.1.3 The Texas Forest Service, if required

7.1.4 The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), if necessary.

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## Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulation on outdoor burning 30 TAC

111.201-221: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/>

Bell County Burn Ban Status:

[http://www.bellcountytexas.com/departments/fire\\_marshall/burn\\_ban\\_status.php](http://www.bellcountytexas.com/departments/fire_marshall/burn_ban_status.php) .

- Texas Forest Service (TFS) County Burn Ban Map: <http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/>
  - Backyard Debris Burning: <https://smokeybear.com/en/prevention-how-tos/backyard-debris-burning>
  - National Fire Protections Association (NFPA) Outdoor cooking with portable grills: <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/outdoors-and-seasonal/grilling/outdoor-cooking-with-portable-grills>
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## Definitions

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**Burn Ban:** Ban on outdoor burning based on recent rainfall and current weather conditions.

**Fire Break:** An area of land that has had plants and trees removed to stop the spread of fire.

**Prescribed Burn:** The process of planning and applying fire to a predetermined area, under specific environmental conditions, to achieve a desired outcome.

**TCEQ:** Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. A commission charged with protecting the state's public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development whose goal is clean air, clean water, and the safe management of waste.

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## Appendix

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Appendix A: TAMUCT Authorization For Outdoor Grilling

Appendix B: BBQ Safety Tips Presentation

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## Contact Office

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Office of Safety & Risk Management

(254) 519-5771

[safetyandriskmanagement@tamuct.edu](mailto:safetyandriskmanagement@tamuct.edu) and [s.kelley@tamuct.edu](mailto:s.kelley@tamuct.edu)



TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY  
CENTRAL TEXAS..

### AUTHORIZATION FOR OUTDOOR GRILLING

I/We _____ Request permission to perform outdoor grilling at the Texas A&M <small>Print Name</small>																																
University – Central Texas Campus on _____ for _____ <small>Date Event</small>																																
I/We will limit my activities to: _____ <small>Approximate Location of Event</small>																																
And agree to adhere to the following:																																
I/We, or a responsible person designated by the requestor and named on this form, must attend the burning at all times while the grilling is performed. Check each box as acknowledgement of understanding the requirements.																																
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grilling cannot take place within 10 feet of combustible materials (walls, curtains, overhead ceiling, trash cans, etc).																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grilling cannot take place on sidewalks or patios.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	A fire extinguisher must be located at the site of the grilling area at all times. A copy of this authorization form will also be present at the site.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	If mobile fire grill(s) are used, transportation of such grill(s) cannot take place until all materials are cooled and no longer in the burn phase.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	User(s) is/are responsible for removal and clean-up of all on-site trash (including coals*) prior to leaving the area. Clean up of any stains on sidewalks or roadways are the responsibility of the user.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	User(s) has/have reviewed the Barbeque Grill Safety Tips Presentation.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	Users(s) has/have reviewed the Outdoor Burning Procedure document.																															
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval must be gained from the following departments before outdoor grilling can take place:																															
<table border="1"><tr><td>Requestor</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><small>Signature</small></td><td><small>Date</small></td></tr><tr><td>Sponsoring VP/Dean/Dept. Dir/Supervisor</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><small>Signature</small></td><td><small>Date</small></td></tr><tr><td>Additional Responsible Person</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><small>Signature</small></td><td><small>Date</small></td></tr><tr><td>Office of Safety &amp; Risk Management</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><small>Signature</small></td><td><small>Date</small></td></tr><tr><td>University Police Department**</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><small>Signature</small></td><td><small>Date</small></td></tr></table>			Requestor	_____	_____		<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>	Sponsoring VP/Dean/Dept. Dir/Supervisor	_____	_____		<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>	Additional Responsible Person	_____	_____		<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>	Office of Safety & Risk Management	_____	_____		<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>	University Police Department**	_____	_____		<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>
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University Police Department**	_____	_____																														
	<small>Signature</small>	<small>Date</small>																														

\*Coals will not be disposed of on the ground or directly into dumpsters.

\*\*Only required if Safety & Risk Management Officer is not available.





# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips







## Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

Every year, thousands of burn injuries result from the careless use of outdoor grills. These injuries occur primarily because of the use of unapproved lighter/starter fluids or gas and the misuse of approved fluids.

These injuries are preventable!



# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips



## Charcoal Grills

- **NEVER** use gasoline as a starter fluid or accelerant for charcoal grills.
- **ALWAYS** use an approved lighter/starter fluid for charcoal grills.

**Always follow the manufacturer's instructions that accompany the grill.**

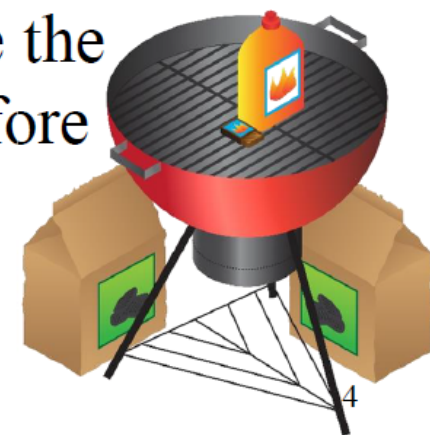




# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Charcoal Grills

- After soaking your coals with lighter/starter fluid, wait for about one minute before lighting the coals. This allows the heavy concentration of explosive vapors to disperse.
- When using lighter/starter fluid, place the container well away from the grill before attempting to light the coals.



TAMUCT Barbeque Grill Safety Tips



# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Charcoal Grills

- Be careful not to spill any fluid on your clothing or in the area surrounding the grill.
- Wear an insulated, fire retardant barbecue mitt when lighting pre-soaked coals.
- Never add lighter/starter fluid to hot or even warm coals. An explosion can result.



TAMUCT Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

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# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Propane Gas Grills

- When using a gas grill, check all connections leading from the fuel source to the inlet connection of the grill for leaks.
- Never use a match, candle, or flameless source to check for a gas leak.

**Always follow the manufacturer's instructions that accompany the grill.**





# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Propane Gas Grills

- Open the valve only a quarter to one-half turn before lighting.
- Always shut off the valve to a fuel source when it is not in use.





# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Propane Gas Grills

- Never start a gas grill with the lid of the grill closed. The propane may accumulate inside, and when ignited, could blow the lid off, causing injury.
- Periodically, clean the grill. Use the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning.



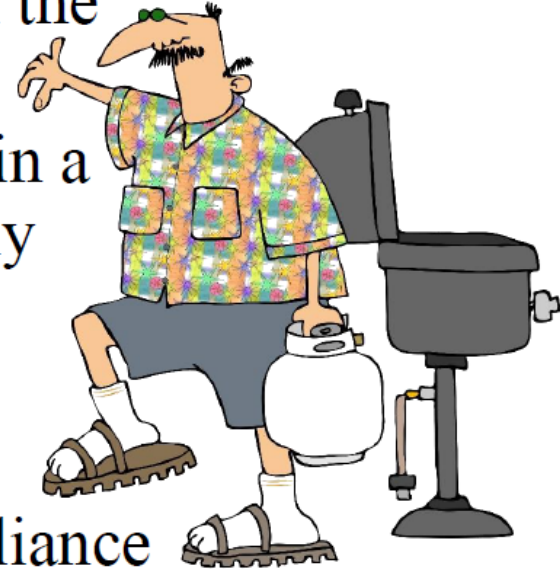




# Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

## Propane Gas Grills

- Have a fire extinguisher located in the grilling area.
- Store full or empty propane tanks in a well-ventilated shed away from any habitable structures.
- Store propane tanks away from potential sources of flame such as furnaces, water heaters or any appliance with a pilot light.







## Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

- Wear tight-fitting or short-sleeved clothing while cooking on a grill.
- Keep children and pets away from grilling areas at all times.



## Barbeque Grill Safety Tips

This concludes the briefing. If you have any questions please contact Shawn Kelley at:

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Email: [s.kelley@tamuct.edu](mailto:s.kelley@tamuct.edu)