

City of Minneapolis Fire Department



Fire Prevention Bureau

350 South 5th Street, Room 233, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1387
(612) 673-2890 Fax (612) 673-2828
Fire Marshal (612) 673-3270



Barbecue Grills on Balconies and Patios of Multi-Residential Buildings

Commercial
Inspectors
District 1 Inspector
Thierry Chevallier
(612) 518-6293

District 2 Inspector
Jim Dahl
(612) 673-3249

District 3 Inspector
(South and East)
(612) 418-0577

District 4 Inspector
Kris Johnson
(612) 708-0041

District 4 Inspector
Melanie Pogatchnik
(612) 760-3609

District 5 Inspector
Mike Raeker
(612) 518-3396

Fire Alarms
(612) 673-3273

Hazardous Materials
(612) 673-5816

Plan Review
(612) 673-3290

Sprinklers
(612) 673-3273

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It is the policy of the Minneapolis Fire Prevention Bureau not to allow the use of liquefied petroleum (LP) fueled barbecue grills on balconies or patios above the ground level of residential buildings having 3 or more dwelling units.

Hot ashes and spontaneous ignition sources, smoldering coals, greasy or oily materials shall not be deposited in combustible receptacles or within 10 feet of other combustible materials, including walls and partitions or within 2 feet of openings to buildings.

Grills on ground level must be at least 15 feet from any structure.

EXCEPTION: Charcoal briquette grills and listed electric or gas-fired barbecue grills that are **securely mounted** to prevent accidental tipping, wired to the building's electrical system, or plumbed to the building's gas supply, and LP grills using 1-lb. disposable tanks. Grills shall maintain a minimum clearance of 18 inches on all sides (unless listed for lesser clearances). **Charcoal burners and gas grills must be 10 feet from any combustible material and shall not be used on combustible balconies or patios.** Fire-treated or green-treated lumber is still considered combustible construction.

Reference: Minnesota State Fire Code Section 305.2, 307.5 and NFPA 58.