

**Remember These
Additional Fire Safety
Practices**

Be familiar with and know the type of fire protection system in your building.

Know the location of smoke alarms and whether your building is protected by fire sprinklers.

Smoke Alarms

You may be responsible for maintenance and testing of your smoke alarms and replacing batteries. Check them monthly by pushing the test button and listening for the alarm. Change batteries frequently.

Develop and practice a home escape plan. Know two ways out of every room and your escape route out of the building.



**For Additional Information
Contact:**

**City of Mesa
Fire Prevention**

480-644-2622

or visit us online at:

www.mesaaz.gov/fire/prevention



Fact Sheet

Grilling on Balconies



**City of Mesa
Fire Prevention
20 E Main St., Ste. 650
Mesa, AZ 85201**

480-644-2622

The Fire Code

The City of Mesa adopted the 2006 International Fire Code with an effective date of February 4, 2008.

The Mesa Fire Code specifically states:

308.3.1 Open flame cooking devices.

Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048mm) of combustible construction.

Exceptions:

1. One-and two-family dwellings.
2. Where buildings, balconies, and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler.

308.3.1.1 Liquefied-petroleum-gas fueled cooking devices.

LP-gas burners having an LP-gas container with a water capacity greater than 2.5 pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity] shall not be located on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

Exception: One-and two-family dwellings.

Commentary: This section (308.3.1.1) restricts LP-gas burners to small tabletop grills or units that might be used in cooking within residential occupancies. The exception allows the use of LP-gas barbeque grills of any size on balconies of one-and two-family dwellings, but not on balconies or decks of multiple-family dwellings where the property and life safety hazard is greater.

The rules apply to existing and newly constructed multi-family residential buildings which have three or more attached units. The rule does not apply to non-combustible construction such as concrete, steel, or balconies protected by fire sprinklers.

Safe Grilling Tips

- If grilling on a combustible (wood product) balcony, use an electric grill.
- Keep children away from the grilling area.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Use grilling tools that give the chef plenty of clearance from heat.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Allow the grill to cool before moving it.
- Place food on a non-combustible tray.



Hazards

- Use of a gas or charcoal grill on a balcony can put an entire building and occupants life safety at risk of a fire.
- Hot charcoals or open flames can start a fire if in contact with combustible materials.
- Wet charcoal can spontaneously combust.
- Burning charcoal can introduce high levels of carbon monoxide.
- Leaking gas from cylinders that are improperly turned off can be ignited by an ignition source and cause an explosion and/or fire.

In Case of Fire Know What to Do !



- **Call 9-1-1.**
- Don't rush out into the hallway. Feel the door. If it is hot, use another way out. If the door is cool, leave by the nearest exit.
- If your building has a public announcement system, listen carefully and follow directions.
- Never use elevators in a fire. Use the stairs. Close all doors behind you to slow fire spread.
- Get out and stay out. Go directly to your planned meeting place and stay there. If you think someone is trapped inside, notify the Fire Department.
- If you can't escape from your residence, stuff wet towels, sheets, or clothes around the door and vents to keep smoke out. Call the Fire Department and tell them where you are. If no smoke is coming into the room you are in, open a window slightly both at the top and bottom. Hang a sheet or towel out the window to alert arriving firefighters.