



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

20 May 2020

Contact: Marsha McCurdy Adell
Fire Inspector
West Hartford Fire Marshal's Office
860.561.8316
MAzell@WestHartfordCT.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The West Hartford Fire Department is committed to fire prevention and community safety. Reaching out to the people we serve is important because the information we offer may result in a fire being prevented.

This is a great time to be outdoors enjoying grilled food. However, statistics indicate that we need to be especially careful as we head towards the height of our outdoor grilling season. With almost 60% of grill fires occurring May-August, now is a good time to remember to take these precautions to decrease the chances of a grill fire that becomes out of control:

- Only use grills outdoors, away from siding and deck railings.
- Clean grills often and remove grease or fat build-up.
- Make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting.
- Have a 3-foot safe-zone around grills and campfires. Keep kids and pets away from the area.
- Dispose of any ashes and embers *after they have cooled* in a metal can.
- Shut your grill down properly by turning off burners **and** fuel supply.
- Never leave grills, fire pits and patio torches unattended.

Also, if you ever have any doubt about the operation of your grill and/or how to maintain it properly, please refer to the owner's manual or contact the manufacturer. Accidents do happen. If a grill fire does develop outside of your grill's cooking area, don't hesitate to call 911 because the West Hartford Fire Department has the equipment and the training to fully extinguish the fire.

Thank you for joining us in our effort to keep our community safe through fire prevention.

WEST HARTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET, ROOM 204
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06107-2538
(860)561-8320 FAX: (860)561-7551

