

May 1, 2009

BBQ Fire Safety

As BBQ season is back in full effect, it is very important to remember the hazards associated with BBQing while camping and at the cottage, or even at home. Please ensure that your propane or natural gas barbecue is in safe, good working order as dirt and debris can build up inside the grill over the winter months. Carefully clean out any particles, dust, and cobwebs that may have built up over the winter. Newer barbecues have spider guards to prevent them from entering the burner and burner tubes, however if yours does not, use a pipe cleaner or wire to ensure that spider webs have not built up inside. Remove lava rocks and grates for a thorough cleaning with soap and warm water.



- ✓ Clean your burner ports to ensure they are free of dirt and rust
- ✓ Make sure that the barbecue hose is in good condition, and is free of cracks. Propane or Natural Gas leaking from a cracked hose may send out a stream that if ignited can produce huge flames
- ✓ Check to ensure that all connections are tight and that there are no leaks. Do not use a match or lighter to check for leaks. You can brush a mixture of soap and water onto the connections and hoses (a 50/50 mix) and any rising bubbles will indicate a leak. Repair your barbecue so that there are no more bubbles
- ✓ Rusty, damaged propane tanks should be replaced by 10 years of age or less
- ✓ If you have uncertainty about the condition of any barbecue part you should replace it with a new component
- ✓ Call a certified fuel appliance repairperson if you do not feel comfortable completing safety checks yourself



Have a safe BBQ season!