



Dear Resident,

The warmer weather brings with it the craving to fire up the grill for a barbeque. Who doesn't love the distinct smell of a barbeque grill preparing a great summer feast? While barbeques are a summer past time in Michigan, I am writing to remind you of the dangers that go with using a barbeque grill incorrectly. Using a barbeque grill on a balcony or within close proximity of a building is extremely dangerous and prohibited by law.

The law covering barbeque grills, Local Ordinance #895, **308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices**, specifically prohibits using a gas or charcoal grill on a combustible balcony or within 10 feet of combustible construction in a multiple family dwelling such as an apartment or condominium complex. There is an exception if the balcony is protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system. A violation of this law could lead to a citation. A person causing fire by improperly using a barbeque grill could be responsible for the damages.

Another potential hazard in multiple family complexes is items left in a common hallway. Anything that will impede a quick exit from the building should not be left in common hallways. Tables, chairs, plants and bicycles are all examples of items that could significantly impact a resident's ability to exit a building during a fire. This is particularly true if the building is filled with smoke. For your safety and the safety of your neighbors we ask that you keep the hallway clear.

Please enjoy your barbeque grill responsibly and keep the common hallways clear. Your Fire Department is always available to answer questions or address any concerns you may have.

Have a great summer!

Best Regards,

Ellen Taylor  
Fire Chief

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