



Home Matters

Newsletter

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5 Tips to Enjoy Safe Summer Cookouts

Grilling in your backyard is an annual summer tradition. Whether cooking out for yourself, your family or a group of guests, these occasions can be enjoyable, memorable and delicious.

However, cooking out also often involves hot surfaces and open flames, making it necessary for responsible grill masters to consider the following precautions:

1. Ensure grills are at least three feet away from your home and other structures or flammable objects (e.g., picnic tables).
2. Avoid lighting grills underneath balconies, awnings or trees.
3. Be vigilant in keeping children and pets away from grills.
4. Check the manufacturer's instructions and specifications regarding your grill and adhere to all guidance.
5. Keep a bucket of water, fire extinguisher or hose nearby in case you need to put out flames ignited by your grill.

For additional home safety resources and guidance, contact us today.

How to Reduce Your Home's Water Consumption During the Summer

Summer often brings hot and dry conditions, potentially even leading to droughts. You can do your part to help conserve water by implementing various strategies at home.

Consider the following steps:

- **Recycle water.** Some uses of water may not require fresh water straight from the tap. For example, consider installing a rain barrel or using the reservoir from a dehumidifier to water your plants.
- **Maximize efficiency.** Avoid doing a load of laundry or running your dishwasher until you have a completely full load.
- **Rethink hygiene routines.** Showers generally use less water than baths. Additionally, you may conserve by installing a low-flow showerhead that uses less water.

Contact us today for more resources regarding home maintenance and safety.

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