



## GREAT FALLS FIRE RESCUE

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Date: May 11, 2023

To: Apartment Owners and Property Managers

From: Fire Marshal Mike McIntosh

Re: BBQ use at Apartments

Dear Valued Owners and Property Managers,

The 2021 Edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) addresses the usage of open flame cooking devices, and other open flame devices, on or near combustibles decks, structures, and buildings.

IFC code section 308.1.4 "Open-Flame Cooking Devices," states; "*Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustibles balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustibles construction.*" Combustibles construction means the structure's patio fences and deck railings, as well as combustibles decks above patios.

Open flame cooking devices at no time shall be used on below grade patios or similar locations where Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP) heavier than air gas might accumulate.

In the City of Great Falls (LP) Gas-Fueled Cooking Devices have been allowed to be used on decks and patios of multi-family occupancies protected by an automatic sprinkler system. Cooking Devices shall not use an (LP) gas container larger than 2-1/2 pounds [nominal] 1-pound capacity.

Great Falls Fire Rescue advises you to notify your residents no (LP) cylinders are allowed to be stored in building interiors, basements, or unit storage areas. Additionally, complex maintenance personnel should periodically inspect common storage areas regularly for propane tanks, flammable liquid containers, and combustibles or hazardous substances.

Reference IFC 2021 edition: International Fire Code (IFC) 308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices, 313 Fueled equipment, 313.1.1 Removal, 6103.2.1.1 Use in basement, pit, or similar location.

Please review the above requirements and contact me if you have questions. We look forward to working with you in maintaining safe living conditions.

Respectfully,

Mike McIntosh

Fire Marshal

Great Falls Fire Rescue