



CRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION & RISK MANAGEMENT
7 SPRINGFIELD AVE, CRANFORD, NJ 07016
PHONE: (908)709-7360
FAX: (908) 276-6183
WWW.CRANFORDNJ.ORG

SUMMER FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

Every season brings its own safety hazards. During the summer months there is an increased risk of fire associated with the use of barbecues, gasoline, air conditioners and other electrical appliances.

GRILL SAFETY

- Fire Departments in the US Respond to an average of 9,000 home fires each year caused by grills. The leading causes of these fires? Failure to clean the grill of grease buildup, having the grill too close to something that could catch fire, leaving the grill unattended, and leaks from gas or propane grill hoses.
- Make sure you keep a 3-foot “safety zone” around grills and recreational fires and make sure to be at least 10-feet from buildings. This will keep kids, pets, and your home safe!
- Never store propane tanks indoors or below ground level. And never leave propane tanks unattended in your vehicle. Check fuel lines for leaks – if you smell gas or propane while grilling- shut the grill down and have it serviced before using again. If you still smell gas – call the Fire Department!
- Keep grills cleaned of grease buildup and if you have a charcoal grill, let the coals cool and dispose of them in a metal container located outside your home.

FIREWORKS

- In 2015 there were 22,000 fireworks injuries reported in the U.S. and 30,000 fires were caused by fireworks. Just in one year! Most of these fires and injuries occurred between the Memorial Day and Independence Day holiday weekends. Remember, fireworks can burn at over 2,000 degrees!
- The use of fireworks is illegal in NJ – leave it to the professionals and attend one of the many excellent public fireworks displays!

LIFE SAFETY TIPS

- Use caution when fueling lawn mowers and other small engines, and only do so outdoors. Store gasoline only in approved containers, out of direct sunlight, in a well-ventilated area, and never store the fuel anywhere in your home. Allow gas-powered equipment to cool before putting away or refueling.
- If you can hear thunder, there is a danger of lightning. Stay indoors and away from windows during thunderstorms – and remember that power surges from lightning can come through your home phone and electrical wires. Never swim or congregate outdoors if you hear thunder!
- Make sure to plug window or portable air conditioners directly into a wall outlet - do not use extension cords. If your electrical outlet is hot to the touch, unplug all appliances and have the wiring inspected as soon as possible. Call the Fire Department if you smell an electrical or burning odor.
- During a Heatwave – Stay hydrated, avoid strenuous activity during the day, check on family, neighbors, and pets, and never leave children or pets in unattended vehicles. Also know the signs of heat stroke - hot, red skin which may be dry or moist; changes in consciousness; vomiting; and high body temperature. This is a life-threatening emergency!