

***The “101 CRITICAL DAYS
of SUMMER SAFETY”***

BBQ GRILL SAFETY



Before Cooking

- Instruct children on the dangers of a lit grill.
- Choose a safe grilling location away from children's play areas and areas of heavy traffic.
- The area should be well-ventilated to avoid the danger from carbon monoxide and other combustion byproducts. Never grill inside or even in a semienclosed area such as a tent or camper. Always grill on a flat, stable platform.
- Make sure you're not wearing clothing that could contact the fire, such as hanging shirt-tails or dangling strings.
- Never leave a grill unattended.

BBQ GRILL SAFETY

Cooking With Propane (LP) Gas Grills

- Read owner's manual and operating instructions carefully.
- Use the exact type of tank and fuel specified.
- Check hoses and valve connections often. Do this by pouring soapy water on the connection points. If bubbles appear retighten connections and test again.
- Transfer and store liquid propane cylinders in an upright position and never where temperatures can reach 125 degrees.
- Whether your grill lights by match or push button igniter, always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Cooking With Charcoal Grills

- Never start a fire with gasoline.
- If using an electric fire starter, use an insulated indoor/outdoor cord plugged into a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected outlet.
- Be sure the ground is dry and you're not standing in water when plugging the starter into an outlet.
- The starter will stay hot for several minutes after use, so place it out of reach of children and on a surface that will not burn.

BBQ GRILL SAFETY

If using instant lighting briquettes:

- Spread them into a single layer, making sure they touch at the edges. Light several of them at their edges with a match.

If using standard charcoal briquettes:

- Stack them in a pyramid to allow air to circulate around them, causing them to light faster.
- Apply charcoal lighter fluid before lighting and wait at least 1 minute before lighting to allow lighter fluid to soak in. Never add fluid to the coals once they've been lit.

To control temperature:

- The coals are ready for cooking when they are grey in the daylight or red at night. Spread them into a single layer with long-handled tongs.

To reduce the temperature:

Raise the cooking grid, spread out the coals, lower the lid, and close the vents halfway.

BBQ GRILL SAFETY

To increase the temperature:

Lower the cooking grid, tap the ashes from the coals, push the coals closer together, place additional coals around the lit ones, and fully open the vents on the grill lid.

Flare-Ups

Fat from your meat will drip onto the fire. The fire ignites the fat, causing flare-ups. The following tips can help prevent flare-ups.

- Grill low-fat meat.
- Trim excess fat from your meat.
- Place a drip pan beneath the meat to catch fat before it hits the coals.
- Don't place meat directly over heat source.
- Keep cover closed and adjust vents as necessary.

CHAINSAW SAFETY



- **Wear protective clothing, such as a hard hat, safety goggles, hearing protection, close-fitting clothes, leather or kevlar® gloves, and safety shoes.**

- **Don't work alone.**
- **Always hold the saw with both hands while cutting.**
- **Start the saw on clear ground. Don't start the saw while resting it on your leg or knee.**
- **Let the saw do the work; don't force the saw through the cut.**
- **Avoid kickback. Keep work area clear of branches.**
- **Never allow someone else to hold the wood as you cut it.**
- **Fatigue can lead to accidents. Rest often.**

LAWN MOWER SAFETY



Know Your Mower

- Read and follow the instruction manual.
- Know how to stop the machine quickly in an emergency.
- Inspect the mower for potential hazards, loose bolts, missing guards, etc.
- Disengage drive and clutch before you start the engine.

Fill The Tank Safely

- Fill the mower outdoors, so vapors won't build up. Never smoke while filling the tank.
- Before refueling, disconnect the spark plug, let the engine cool for a few minutes. Gas spilled on hot engine parts can cause a flash fire.

Dress for Safety

- Wear heavy-duty shoes with non-slip soles. Never mow in bare feet or sandals.

Clear The Area

- Pick-up sticks, stones, toys, and debris that could be ejected from the mower and cause injury.

BICYCLE SAFETY



- Obey all applicable traffic laws, signs, signals, and markings.
- Observe all local ordinances pertaining to bicycle operation.
- Keep right, drive with traffic, not against it. Ride single file.
- Watch out for drain grates, soft shoulders, and other road surface hazards.
- Watch out for car doors opening or for cars pulling out into traffic.

- Don't carry passengers or packages that may interfere with your vision or control.
- Be extremely careful at all intersections, particularly when making a left turn.
- Use hand signals to indicate turning or stopping.
- Make yourself visible at night with reflectors and lights.
- Drive a safe bike. Conduct an inspection to ensure its proper mechanical condition.
- Drive your bike defensively; watch for other riders, pedestrians, and automobiles.
- Never hitch a ride on a truck or other vehicle.

SWIMMING SAFETY

ARC statistics reveal that half of all drownings occur within 20 feet of safety. The frightening fact is that 40% of the population cannot swim 20 feet and would probably drown attempting to get to safety.

- Never swim alone, even if you are an experienced swimmer.
- Swim only at supervised areas.
- Never swim when exhausted, overheated, or immediately after eating.
- Before diving, make sure the water is deep enough.
- Don't depend on a tube or inflated toy for buoyancy.
- Whenever a storm approaches, get out of the water.
- Don't swim in extremely cold water.

- **Don't drink and swim!**



BOATING SAFETY



Float plan:

- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back

Weather:

- Always check the weather and water conditions before leaving shore. Take a radio with you and listen to updated weather reports.

Fuel:

- Check to make sure you have enough gas. Use the “one-third rule” ... use 1/3 to go, 1/3 to get back, and 1/3 in reserve.

Tools and spare parts:

- Carry a few tools and some spare parts and learn how to make minor emergency repairs.

Life jackets:

- Make sure you have one on board for each individual in the boat.
- Make sure they are accessible.
- Make everyone to wear a lifejacket.
- Set an example by wearing yours.

Safety equipment:

- You should carry a Type ABC fire extinguisher, flares, a horn or whistle, a strong flashlight, a first-aid kit, and a bailing bucket or pump.
- Check state and Coast Guard requirements for more information.

FIREWORKS SAFETY



DON'T DO IT!

Fort Belvoir and many local communities will be having major fireworks displays to celebrate the 4th of July.

It's not worth the risk to do it yourself ... and it's against Army policy to shoot private fireworks on the installation!

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY



If you are a beginner or experienced motorcyclist, enroll in a motorcycle training course by calling the Fort Belvoir Safety Office at 703-704-0648.

Tips for safe riding

- Ride your motorcycle as though you were invisible to other highway users. Chances are the motorist really does not see you. 50% of all accidents involving motorcycles are the result of an **automobile making a left turn directly into the path of an oncoming motorcycle.**
- Take positive steps to increase your visibility. Keep your headlight on at all times; and have your bike, riding clothes, and helmet marked with light colored retro reflective materials.
- Maintain the proper lane position and use your directional signals.
- Maintain a safe following distance. Traffic accidents caused by motorcyclists are usually the result of following too closely.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

- Carry passengers only after you become a thoroughly experienced rider.
- Be sure the motorcycle is legally equipped and maintained in safe operating condition.
- Ride in the left track, that is, to the left of the grease strip in your lane of traffic unless you intend to turn right. The left track position assures better visibility, more evasive escape room and encourages the motorist to pass properly. A motorcycle is not permitted to share lane position with any other vehicle, including another motorcycle.
- Be in top mental condition before operating a motorcycle ...
Coordination and concentration are essential to safe operation.
- Do not lend your bike to a buddy. Many motorcycle accidents occur on borrowed machines because the rider is not familiar with the controls or handling characteristics. Also, your insurance may not cover possible claims arising from your borrowed motorcycle's accident and you could even be held criminally liable in case of a serious accident or injury.



CHILD SAFETY

7 RULES TO REMEMBER

- 1. Kids are kids, they're not little adults ... their minds work differently than ours and they may do other than what we expected.**
- 2. If there is something you don't want a kid to get into, lock it up.**
- 3. If you say your kid wouldn't do that, you'll probably be right at least 50% of the time.**
- 4. Kids are smart, they wait until we're distracted before they do something that we told them specifically not to do.**
- 5. If you think you've got them figured out, they have you well trained.**
- 6. The only thing more vicious than a mother bear protecting her cubs is an older sister protecting her tricycle from her younger brother.**
- 7. If you put it in a recycled plastic milk bottle, your kid will drink it.**

Have a great and safe summer.

QUESTIONS?