



AFTER THE FIRE

Tips to Prevent Fires

Bureau of Fire Prevention ~ 40 Summit Drive
843-682-5140



On December 27, 2014 Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue was dispatched to a single family residence for a call of smoke and flames coming from the backside of the structure. Upon arrival at 3:37 pm the crews found fire on the exterior patio in and around a gas grill.

The fire had spread into the chimney area of an outside fire place adjacent to the grill. There was damage to the back porch and the surrounding furniture.

It was determined that the grill had been left on.

A fire will change your life in ways that you can not even begin to imagine. Below are some tips to help you prevent this from happening at your home. Fire safety starts with you so—PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY EVERY-DAY!!

Please contact the Fire & Life Safety Educator at 843-682-5141 with any questions.

Four engines, two medic units, the truck company and multiple staff personnel responded to the scene.



GRILLING SAFETY

Before you start!

Start with a clean grill by removing grease or fat buildup from the grill and trays below the grill.

Grills should only be used outside and placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

If using a propane tank, check the hose for leaks before using it.

While grilling!

Never use gasoline, alcohol or kerosene to start a fire using coals.

Use long handled utensils to avoid burns and splatters.

Wear clothing that does not have hanging shirt tails, frills or apron strings that can catch fire.

Keep children and pets away from the grill area. Never leave your grill unattended.

To put out or avoid any flare ups, either raise the grid that the food is on, spread coals evenly or adjust the controls to lower the temperature.

After grilling!

Never attempt to move a hot grill.

If you are using coals, soak the coals with water. Close the grill lid and any vents tightly.

After using a propane grill, you can leave the grill on for a short time to burn off any left over meat or grease. This also helps keep the burner openings clear for future grilling. But make sure you set a timer so you don't forget to shut the propane off!

Allow grills to cool adequately before you put anything over it like a protective cover.