

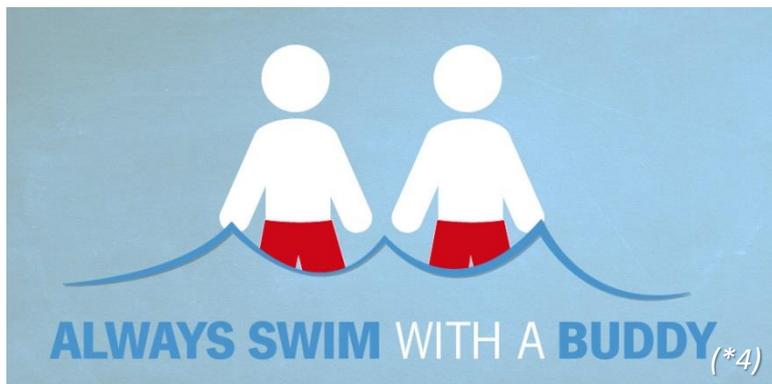
# Independence Day

Celebrating U.S. Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup> every year often includes enjoying the company of friends and family at a cookout, swimming at the lake or the beach, or watching the fireworks together. No matter what is planned, safety can be a priority to ensure everyone has fun.



(\*1)

# Independence Day



Swimming to cool off in the hot weather is a favorite July 4<sup>th</sup> activity. Keep these tips in mind to keep everyone safe at the beach, lake, pool or while boating.

- Wear sunscreen and reapply often.
- Keep a first aid kit nearby.
- Stay hydrated, drink plenty of water regularly.
- Maintain constant supervision, avoid distractions.
- Monitor local weather conditions.
- Young children and inexperienced swimmers should wear a life jacket when near or in the water.
- Never dive headfirst, especially at the beach or the lake.

Any beach with breaking waves may have rip currents which cause deaths every year. Alert swimmers to these tips at the beach:

- Stay at least 100 feet away from piers and jetties.
- If caught in a rip current, swim parallel to the shore or float or tread water until out of the current, then swim toward shore.

# Independence Day

## A FUN COOKOUT IS A SAFE COOKOUT

Liquid petroleum (LP) gas or propane, used in gas grills, is highly flammable and every year people are injured as a result of gas grill fires and explosions. Most of these injuries occur when a gas grill is used after having been left untouched for a period of time, or just after refilling and reattaching the grill's gas container.

Always do a safety check on a gas grill before using it for the next cookout. Make sure tubes aren't blocked, hoses aren't cracked and there are no gas leaks.



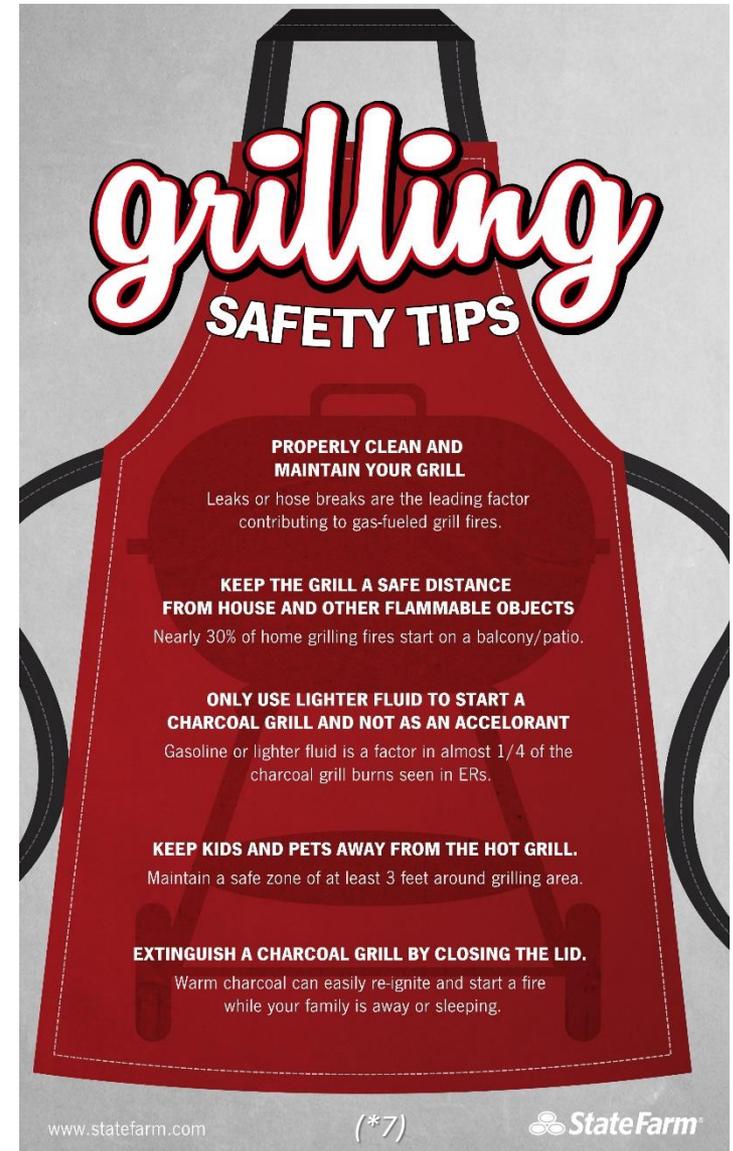
(\*5) Gas Grill



(\*6) Charcoal Grill

Charcoal produces carbon monoxide (CO) when it is burned and every year people die or are injured as a result of CO fumes, which is colorless and odorless.

NEVER burn charcoal inside of homes, vehicles, tents or campers and never store a charcoal grill indoors with freshly used coals.



# grilling

## SAFETY TIPS

- PROPERLY CLEAN AND MAINTAIN YOUR GRILL**  
Leaks or hose breaks are the leading factor contributing to gas-fueled grill fires.
- KEEP THE GRILL A SAFE DISTANCE FROM HOUSE AND OTHER FLAMMABLE OBJECTS**  
Nearly 30% of home grilling fires start on a balcony/patio.
- ONLY USE LIGHTER FLUID TO START A CHARCOAL GRILL AND NOT AS AN ACCELERANT**  
Gasoline or lighter fluid is a factor in almost 1/4 of the charcoal grill burns seen in ERs.
- KEEP KIDS AND PETS AWAY FROM THE HOT GRILL.**  
Maintain a safe zone of at least 3 feet around grilling area.
- EXTINGUISH A CHARCOAL GRILL BY CLOSING THE LID.**  
Warm charcoal can easily re-ignite and start a fire while your family is away or sleeping.

www.statefarm.com (\*7) State Farm

# Independence Day

The American Red Cross advises that the safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks show put on by professionals.

Severe burns, eye injuries, amputations, blindness and even death are the result of July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations every year. To ensure everyone stays safe, if fireworks are set off at home follow these safety tips:

- Remember: Fireworks are not toys!
- Never let children handle fireworks.
- Never attempt to relight “a dud”.
- Always read the directions.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Always point fireworks away from people and buildings.
- Light only one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in the area before buying or using them.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby.
- Sparklers are also dangerous and burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees, causing burns on children.



(\*8) Firecracker that exploded out the side unexpectedly instead of out the top, almost causing serious injury and property damage.



(\*9) Fires started in apartment building balconies caused by errant fireworks.

# Independence Day

**CELEBRATE! HAVE A SAFE & MEMORABLE JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> HOLIDAY BY REMEMBERING THESE SAFETY TIPS:**



- Never leave children unattended near water.
  - Stay hydrated and wear sunscreen.
  - Protect the neck! Never dive headfirst.
  - Know what to do if caught in a rip current.
  - Keep kids and pets away from the hot grill.
  - Never burn charcoal indoors.
  - Keep the grill a safe distance from the house.
  - Never let children handle or set off fireworks.
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- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
  - Always read the instructions and remember, Fireworks are NOT TOYS.
  - Point fireworks away from people and buildings, light only one at a time, and never attempt to relight a “dud”.
  - Better safe than sorry: if possible, enjoy a professional fireworks show instead.

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