Guidelines for the Use of Outdoor Cooking Appliances

The International Fire Code defines open burning as “The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through as stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber.” In order to maintain a safe and environmentally responsible climate on the UM Campus, open burning/setting fire is prohibited under Regental Ordinance Article XII, Section 1, paragraph 6, unless prior approval is granted in writing by University Officials. However, fires in approved stoves and grills are permitted under the ordinance. The following guidelines should be adhered to whenever any outdoor cooking appliances are used on University of Michigan property:

- Propane fueled grills may not be used any closer than 25 feet to any building or structure and must be UL listed/labeled, commercially manufactured, and in good condition.

- If a solid fuel source (wood or charcoal) is used, grills may not be used any closer than 50 feet to any building or structure, and a non-combustible container with a cover must be provided for the disposal of hot coals.

**HOT COALS ARE NOT TO BE DISPOSED OF IN DUMPTERS.**

- Grills should not be used underneath tents, awnings, porticos, patios, or inside of parking garages.

- Grills may not be placed to obstruct exits from buildings.

- An ABC Multi-purpose fire extinguisher (minimum 4A: 60BC rating) must be available in the immediate area at all times grills are in use.

- Lit grills cannot be left unattended.

- Propane tanks cannot be used or stored inside of any buildings.

- Any fire, injury, or property damage that occurs must be reported to the Department of Public Safety right away (911 from any campus phone, 734-763-1131 from any cell phone.)

Any questions can be directed to UM Occupational Safety Fire Services at 647-1143. OSEH Fire Inspectors are also available to conduct reviews of special requests on a case-by-case basis.