

# Barbeque Safety

Follow these safety tips for propane and natural gas barbeques to ensure a safe and enjoyable barbequing season.

## Getting Started

- When buying a barbeque, choose one that bears the CSA, ITS or ULC label. Follow manufacturer's instructions and when necessary, have it repaired by a trained professional.
- Propane cylinders must be inspected and re-certified every 10 years. Check your propane cylinder for date of manufacture.
- Place your barbeque outside, on level ground, at least one metre (three feet) away from the house and away from wind and combustible materials.
- Barbeques should be inspected and cleaned at least once each year, preferable prior to the first use.
- Make sure burners are in good condition. Burners that are rusted or damaged should be replaced.
- Check the flexible hose. If you find cracks or damage replace the hose before using the barbeque.
- Clean the tubes underneath the burner – insects and debris can accumulate inside these tubes.
- If your barbeque connection area has an “o” ring, check it every time you connect the cylinder. Replace missing, deformed, cracked or damaged “o” rings.

## Checking for leaks

After connecting a propane cylinder, check for leaks using a solution of equal parts soap and water.

- With the appliance turned off, brush the solution over all connections – open the cylinder valve and bubbles will form when there is a leak.
- If you find a leak, close the cylinder valve and contact a certified gasfitter. After repairs are completed, repeat the leak test until there are no leaks.

## Using your barbeque

- To prevent excessive gas build-up, when using a match, always light the match before turning on the gas. If the barbeque is equipped with an electronic igniter, follow the directions on the control panel.
- Both propane and natural gas flames should be mostly blue with yellow tips. If the flame is mostly yellow, do not use the barbeque. Contact a qualified gasfitter.
- Prevent grease from dripping onto the hoses or cylinder. Grease build-up is a fire hazard.
- Never store extra propane cylinders under or near your barbeque. Excess heat may overpressure the cylinder and cause it to release propane from the cylinder relief valve.
- Make sure children stay away from the barbeque.
- **Never** use a barbeque indoors; doing so causes a build-up of poisonous carbon monoxide gas.
- After barbequing, make sure the barbeque is turned off and the burner flames are out. Also make sure the gas supply is turned off and the lid is closed.

For more information, please call 1-866-421-6929 or visit [www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ss](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ss).