Basic Safety for Charcoal Grills

These safety requirements apply to charcoal grills:

- If you use a flammable liquid to start your fire, use only lighter fluid—not gasoline or another flammable liquid.
- Once the fire is lit, don’t spray lighter fluid onto it. Make sure to store lighter fluid safely away from the hot grill.
- If you use an electric starter, don’t use it in wet conditions. Let the starter cool completely before putting it away.
- Don’t dispose of hot coals improperly. Wait until the coals are completely cool. Wet down coals or place in metal container with tight fitting lid. Never store coals in garages, under eaves, or near combustible materials.

Basic Safety for Propane Grills

These safety requirements apply to propane grills:

- Check for leaks before using the grill. Do this by spraying hoses and connection points with soapy water solution while the propane tank is open and looking for expanding bubbles. Tighten any loose connections, or replace connectors that won’t tighten properly.
- Do not turn the gas on and wait before lighting the grill. This can result in a buildup of gas that will create a fireball when you light the grill.
- When lighting the grill, leave the lid open, and keep your face away from over the grill.

Other Safety Precautions:

- Keep BBQ equipment in good working condition, provide preventative maintenance and repairs as needed.
- Prevent grease accumulation; clean drip trays and surfaces regularly.
- Keep children and pets away from hot grills and other hot surfaces.
- Do not use grills on covered porches, covered decks or underneath combustible overhangs.
- Keep a fire extinguisher or hose (charcoal) handy in case of accidental fire.
- Do not attempt to extinguish a propane tank fire if it is large or rapidly growing- clear the area and call 911.
- Never leave cooking food unattended.

Happy Grilling from your Friends at EHS!