

# GUIDELINES AND POLICY FOR THE SAFE USE OF OUTDOOR GRILLS

Messiah University Department of Facility Services & Department of Safety

Due to the danger of fire or injury from the use, or misuse, of gas and charcoal grills, Messiah University enforces the following grilling limitations. **Please note that gas grills are prohibited from use on campus**. Due to the dangers associated with the use of charcoal grills, it has become necessary to prohibit their use anywhere on campus (including satellite housing), except at the following designated permanent grill sites:

- Fry Residence - rear of Section C
- Kelly Residence - front of Section A
- Yellow Breeches Picnic Area
- Mellinger Residence - front of Section B
- Smith Residence - rear of Section B

The exception to these restrictions is in Resident Director housing, at the discretion of the University.

Large groups/organizations can reserve the use of the college's large portable charcoal grill through Dining Services. To better protect you and your friends and to allow you to have a safe and enjoyable cook-out, please read and comply with the following safety guidelines:



☑ **Only charcoal pretreated with starter fluid (e.g., Kingsford Match Light) is permitted to be used -- NOTE: Liquid starter fluid is not permitted to be used, nor stored in any college housing.** Always store the charcoal away from heat and open flame, and in a well-ventilated area. Store it in the original bag, keeping it closed to avoid evaporation of the petroleum distillates. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use printed on the side of the bag. Unfortunately, the Department of Safety and the Department of Facility Services are no longer supplying free charcoal to students for their use. You are responsible to purchase your own charcoal and matches (or lighter). Possession of matches or lighters in residential buildings is prohibited; these items may be stored in your personal vehicle.

☑ **ONLY USE CHARCOAL IN THE GRILLS** (Do not use firewood, etc., which can damage the grills). If using the university's large portable grill, locate it no less than 20 feet away from any windows or doors. Keep a spray bottle of water handy for dousing any flaming grease.

☑ **NEVER ADD CHARCOAL STARTER FLUID, OR ANY OTHER FLAMMABLE LIQUID, WHEN THE COALS HAVE ALREADY BEEN IGNITED!** Flames can travel up to the can and cause an explosion. Never use an electric or chimney style starter.



☑ **NEVER** add pretreated charcoal to an existing fire.

☑ Keep a "kid-free zone" of 36" around the grill, in case you have younger siblings or friends in attendance.

☑ Don't wear loose clothing around charcoal grills, which can be ignited by flames or flaming grease.

☑ You are ready to begin cooking when the charcoal is almost ashed over (about 20 minutes after lighting). Be sure to cook your meats thoroughly to avoid food-related illnesses.

☑ **NEVER dispose of remaining coals or ashes in trash cans or dumpsters! Please do not dump them, whether they're hot or cold, on the ground.** Using caution (as sudden steam production and spattering may burn you), douse the coals with water before leaving the grill unattended when you are done cooking. Our Grounds Services personnel will routinely remove and properly dispose of the ashes.