

Guidance on Barbecues

People using barbecues tend to concentrate on cooking and don't always remember that they are dealing with a fire and should take precautions accordingly.

Barbecues are social events and should be enjoyed, however, you should remember that alcohol and fire do not mix.

- Use recommended fluids or fire lighters when starting a barbecue;
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions;
- If you have a gas barbecue take extra care when changing the gas cylinders;
- Do not use liquids to start a barbecue; a liquid can splash onto your clothes, causing them to ignite, if you stand too close to the barbecue. Always use firefighters to light a barbecue;
- Site the barbecue well away from anything flammable, such as sheds, fences and shrubs;
- Never build fires in fields or forests;
- Position the barbecue on a firm, level base and shelter it from gusts of wind;
- Beware when wearing loose, flowing clothes and tie hair back;

Remember, if things get out of control call the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service immediately by dialling 999.

- Do not allow barbecues to burn fiercely enough to burst into flames; and
- Keep at least one bucket of water handy – just in case.



Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service

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