



EULESS FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

EFD-FMO 38-3

INFORMATION LINE: *Outdoor Cooking and Grilling* *Revised 01/16*

Fire Chief Wes Rhodes Fire Marshal Paul Smith

2015 Edition International
Fire and Building Code as
Amended

NFPA Standards Adopted

This document is intended to provide assistance in complying with the regulations in effect in the City of Euleless regarding outdoor cooking. This document is not all inclusive and does not include the additional restrictions imposed on cooking operations conducted at multi-family facilities, prohibitions against using barbecues and similar devices in a structure and other fire code issues:

This Policy Statement is designed and intended to regulate the problems caused by fire hazards and smoke nuisance issues surrounding larger outdoor grilling operations. This policy statement **DOES NOT** apply to the following cooking arrangements:

1. Cooking fires on a single piece of property having a total fuel area of less than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height, or less than approximately 18 cubic feet in aggregate size(s).
2. Cooking fires contained in an approved commercially purchased barbecue device that does not exceed 25 square feet of cooking surface in the aggregate on a single piece of property.
3. A permanently constructed barbecue device or smoker meeting the size exceptions outlined in exception #1 OR in which plans were submitted and construction permits issued by the fire department after January 1, 2007.
4. Fully enclosed trailer mounted cookers.
5. Permanently installed and enclosed cooking equipment at a place of business operating in a commercial area, defined as a permanently located commercial food establishment in possession of a valid Certificate of Occupancy, operated for profit in an appropriate zoning district and in which the cooking operation is fully enclosed, that is in the business of providing food services.
6. Commercially purchased propane and natural gas fired cooking equipment.

ALL outdoor cooking operations not meeting the exception above MUST be in compliance with the following:

IMPORTANT: Failure to comply with these requirements will subject you to a fine of up to \$2,000 dollars and can result in your fire being extinguished:

1. You **MUST** obtain written authorization from the Fire Department **BEFORE** you light your fire. Call 817-685-1600 for authorization from 8-5, Monday through Friday. After hours requests should be made by calling 817-685-1600 before 4 PM on the day of the cooking operation **OR** by 4 PM Friday for a request for a weekend cooking authorization. This permit/written authorization may be revoked at any time for cause by any employee of the Euleless Fire Department for reasons including, but not limited to, unsafe or unhealthy conditions or failure to comply with any provision of this policy statement.

2. Special requirements may be placed on the written authorization form and must be complied with.
3. Your cooking operation must be placed a minimum of fifteen feet from any combustible materials and a minimum of twenty five feet from any building or structure and adjacent property lines.
4. Cooking (baking) pits may not exceed five feet by five feet in size by five feet deep (125 cubic feet) if they will be covered for baking, or five feet by five feet in size by three feet deep (75 cubic feet) if they will be used for open cooking. In order to be considered a baking pit, all cooking must occur underground and be covered by a minimum of one foot of earth or other approved material. No more than two pits are permitted on a single piece of property and those pits must be separated by a minimum of fifteen feet.
5. Only approved materials may be used for fuel.
6. Flammable or combustible liquids can not be used to maintain the fire.
7. A water hose or other approved method of extinguishing a fire must be available.
8. The fire must be constantly attended by a competent adult.
9. In residential areas, defined as any area upon which are located dwellings as defined in the development code, or vacant lots which are zoned to permit dwellings, when the cooking operations will occur at a dwelling, be it a single family or multi family structure, cooking operations are restricted to the rear yards of properties and must be within a fenced enclosure. All below grade cooking pits must be located within a fenced enclosure regardless of location.
10. Any peace officer or fire department employee shall have the right of ingress on any property within the city in order to carry out the provisions of this section, and to determine if a violation exists.

This policy statement vacates and renders obsolete any previous permits issued for the construction or operation of a pit or grill in the City, other than those that are part of a commercial food preparation establishment operated for profit in an appropriate zoning district and in which the cooking operation is fully enclosed.

FIRE HAZARD AND SMOKE NUISANCE IS PROHIBITED:

The fire department is authorized to extinguish or require the extinguishment of any cooking fire found to be in violation of this section. **The fire department is further authorized to extinguish or require the extinguishment of any fire, including those that are otherwise considered an exception to this section, if the fire is determined to present a fire hazard, or if the smoke from the fire is determined to be a nuisance to adjacent properties.**

No person shall discharge from any source whatsoever one or more air contaminants or combination thereof, in such concentration and of such duration as are or may tend to be injurious to or adversely affect human health or welfare, animal life, vegetation, or property, or as to interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of animal life, vegetation or property. The mere presence of light smoke or an odor of smoke is not a violation under this provision. **If the smoke is of such intensity or duration to prevent a prudent person from standing comfortably in the smoke at any point on property adjacent to the property of origin, said smoke is hereby declared to be at a nuisance level and is in violation of this section.**

A violation of this policy statement is the joint responsibility of the person who obtained the authorization and the owner of the property on which the violation occurs, or any person found tending a fire or in control of the premises on which a cooking fire regulated by this section occurs. Any said person(s) may be held responsible for a violation of these provisions and is subject to a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000).