## **Barbecue Safety** Grilled to Perfection Every Time!

**USE BBQS OUTDOORS ONLY!** They produce **carbon monoxide**, a poisonous gas that can lead to unconsciousness and even death. Never use or store propane cylinders inside any structure, including garages.

## Take these steps when starting a BBQ:

- Open the hood.
- Turn on the gas release valve on the tank.
- Turn on the grill controls or heat settings.
- Take a step back.
- Push the igniter button.
- If there is no igniter button, insert a long match or BBQ lighter through the side burner hole first, then turn on the heat control knob.
- If the burner does not ignite right away, turn the gas off and wait five minutes, keeping the hood open, before repeating the procedure.

## At the start of the BBQ season, do this THREE-STEP SAFETY CHECK of your BBQ:

- 1 **CLEAN** Use a pipe cleaner or wire to ensure burner ports are free of rust, dirt, spider webs or other debris.
- 2 **CHECK** Examine the hose leading from the tank to the burners. Replace it if cracked or damaged.
- **3 TEST** Find leaks by applying a 50/50 solution of water and dish soap to propane cylinder connections and hoses. If bubbles appear, tighten the connection and/or replace the damaged parts and retest.



## Stay Fire Safe!

Never leave the BBQ unattended when in use.

Make sure grease does not build up on the burners or at the base of the BBQ. This could cause a grease fire.

**Never throw water on a grease fire** – this will only spread the flame.

**DO NOT** place the BBQ close to wooden fences or walls, vinyl siding, or anything that can burn. The area behind your BBQ must be free of anything that can ignite – this is where hot gases escape.

Keep loose clothing away from a hot BBQ.

Keep children and pets at least one metre (three feet) away from a hot BBQ.

When finished barbecuing, turn the gas valve off first, then turn off the burner controls so no gas is left in the connecting hose.

Allow the BBQ to cool completely before closing the cover.

If you live in an apartment or condo building, check with the building owner or property manager, or the Condominium Act of your building, regarding the use of BBQs on your building's balconies.

\* SAFETY TIPS COURTESY OF THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND SAFETY AUTHORITY / WWW.SAFETYINFO.CA

> Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management ontario.ca/firemarshal