



**EAST LAKE TARPON
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**
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Information Bulletin: Fire Code Requirements for Charcoal Grills and LP Gas Appliances in Multiple Family Dwellings

Cooking on Balconies

The Florida Fire Prevention Code prohibits any cooking on a balcony of an apartment or condominium. The only exception is for electrical cooking appliances such as electric ranges or electric grills.

Storage of L.P. Gas or Gas Grills

The Florida Fire Prevention Code prohibits the storage or use of L.P. gas in quantities greater than 1 pound above the first floor in any apartment or condominium. Therefore, L.P. gas grills cannot be stored on a balcony. It is important to note that L.P. gas cylinders cannot be stored inside the residential unit or anywhere above the first floor.

The specific code sections are as follows:

NFPA 1:10.10.6.1: Cooking Equipment. For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, gas-fired grill, charcoal grill, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose, shall be used or kindled on any balcony or under any overhanging portion or within 10 ft (3 m) of any structure. (Per NFPA 1, Uniform Fire Code, Florida 8th Edition)

NFPA 1:10.10.6.1.1: Listed electric portable, tabletop grills, not to exceed 200 square inches of cooking surface, or other similar apparatus shall be permitted.

NFPA 1:10.10.6.2: For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, grill, or similar device used for cooking shall be stored on a balcony.

NFPA 1:69.5.3.5: Storage Within Residential Buildings. Storage of cylinders within a residential building, including the basement or any storage area in a common basement storage area in multiple-family buildings and attached garages, shall be limited to cylinders each with a maximum water capacity of 2.7 lb (1.2 kg) and shall not exceed 5.4 lb (2.4 kg) aggregate water capacity for smaller cylinders per each living space unit.

NFPA 1:69.3.12.9.2: Cylinders on Roofs or Exterior Balconies. Cylinders have water capacities greater than 2.7 lb shall not be located on decks or balconies of dwellings of two or more living units above the first floor unless they are served by exterior stairways.

PLEASE NOTE: Many condominiums or apartment complexes have regulations on the use of barbecue grills that exceed fire code requirements. Please check with your management staff to see what requirements or exceptions apply to use of grills at your complex.

We hope that everyone is respectful of our neighbors and keeps safety in mind while performing any outdoor cooking activities at multifamily dwellings.

Please contact Fire Marshal Pamela DeMeo at 727.784.8668 ext. 204 or via email at pdemeo@elfr.org if you have additional questions regarding grilling at multifamily dwellings.