



City of Ann Arbor Fire Department

Fire Prevention Bureau

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Outdoor Cooking Devices and LP-Gas Cylinder Requirements

Multi-unit residential dwellings, (non one- and two-family dwellings), shall not operate gas cooking devices within 10 feet of combustible balconies and decks unless it is protected by an automatic sprinkler system or unless using a 1 pound LP-gas cylinder [2.7 lb water capacity]. Combustible balconies and decks include walls, decking, railings, overhangs, etc. Electric grills can to be used on combustible decks and balconies without an automatic sprinkler system. LP-gas cylinders greater than a 2.7 lb water capacity are not allowed on combustible balconies and decks.

Storage of LP-gas cylinders in attached or detached garages shall be limited to 2 – 1 pound LP-gas cylinders [5.4 lb aggregate water capacity] per each living unit.

Additional requirements may be enforced in your condominium or apartment complex. Please refer to your association by-laws or leasing agreement for more information.

Pursuant to the 2009 International Fire Code, Section 308 – Open Flames:

Section 308.1.4 – Open Flame Cooking Devices

Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

Exception:

1. One- and two-family dwellings.
2. Where building, balconies and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system.
3. LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2½ pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].

Pursuant to the 2008 Edition of NFPA 58 – Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code:

Section 6.19.11.2

Cylinders having water capacities greater than 2.7 lb [nominal 1 lb LP-Gas capacity] 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.

Section 8.3.5 – Storage Within Residential Buildings

Storage of cylinders within a residential building, including the basement or any storage area in a common basement of a multiple-family building and attached or detached garages, shall be limited to cylinders each with a maximum water capacity of 2.7 lb and shall not exceed 5.4 lb aggregate water capacity per each living space unit.

Reka Farrackand
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City of Ann Arbor