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Summertime Grilling: Keep it Safe

Summer is right around the corner and families across the country are preparing their grills for another season of delicious outdoor meals. Following are tips to keep in mind while using a propane grill:

- Read and follow all the grill manufacturer's instructions before turning on and lighting the grill.
- Keep the top open when lighting a propane grill, and don't close it until you are sure the grill is lit.
- Don't let children tamper with the cylinder or the grill.
- If you smell gas, and it is safe to do so, turn off the cylinder valve, turning it to the right (clockwise). If you are unable to turn off the valve, immediately leave the area and dial 911 or call your local fire department. Before you use the grill again, have a qualified service technician inspect your grill and cylinder.
- Remain near the grill while it is on. Do not leave a lit grill unattended.

When you're finished using the grill, be sure to do the following:

- Disconnect and cover hose-end fittings with plastic bags or protective caps to keep the grill clean when it is not in use.
- Store propane cylinders outdoors in an upright (vertical) position.
- When refilling or replacing a propane cylinder, transport it in a secure, upright (vertical) position in a well-ventilated area in your vehicle, and take it home immediately.
- Consult a qualified service technician if you are having grill or propane cylinder problems.