Barbecues

The UCDHS Fire Prevention Department is frequently asked questions by the campus community regarding the placement of barbecues and if a permit is needed prior to using the barbecue. It is the Fire Prevention Department's goal to establish guidelines such that permits for barbecue related activities are not required.

General Requirements:

1. Barbecue must be attended at all times.
2. Barbecues are to be used outside, a minimum of ten feet from the nearest building, projection, and/or overhang or combustible material (including trees).
3. Only lighter fluid approved for use with barbecues may be used, and the lighter fluid container must be removed to a minimum distance of ten feet from the barbecue before igniting the briquettes. The Fire Prevention Department recommends storing barbecue lighter fluid in a secured metal cabinet.
4. When finished cooking, you may leave the coals in the barbecue until completely cooled (48 hours is recommended). Another option is to place the cooled briquettes in a metal bucket of water for a minimum of 30 minutes. Ensure the coals are cool to the touch before discarding them into any dumpster.
5. The Fire Prevention Department recommends a bucket of water be kept nearby anytime a barbecue is in use (suggested size of bucket - 5 gallons).
6. Barbecues are not permitted for use on patios or decks above the ground level.
7. Maintain an appropriate distance from the air intake(s) so that the smoke stays outside the building.
Non-landscaped Areas (Example: Mind Institute Lawn Area)

In non-landscaped areas the following, along with the above requirements, must also be addressed:

1. Non-landscaped areas must be cleared of all combustibles for a minimum of ten feet in all directions.
2. Barbecue must be completely extinguished prior to leaving the site.
3. At least one (1) five-gallon bucket of water must be present during barbecuing.

Should the barbecue operation not fall into the guidelines listed above, please contact the Fire Prevention Department at 734-3036 so options can be discussed to allow safe operation of the barbecue. Please remember that campfires are not considered barbecues.