Charlotte County Fire/EMS

Fire Prevention Division

Prohibited Use of Cooking and Heating Appliances

The Florida Fire Prevention Code (8th edition), adopted by the State of Florida, became effective December 31, 2023. Section(s) of this code may have direct impact on some occupancy within our community this time of year:

NFPA 1 10.10.6.1

For other than 1 or 2 family dwellings, no hibachi, grill or other similar devices used for cooking, heating or any other purpose shall be used or kindled on any balcony, under any overhanging portion or within 10' of any structure.

NFPA 1 10.10.6.2

For other than 1 or 2 family dwellings, no hibachi, grill or other similar devices used for cooking shall be stored on a balcony.

Florida Exception:

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.

This letter also pertains to heaters used by some restaurants and businesses throughout the community to keep their customers warm this time of year. The use of the Gas type heater(s) is specifically limited to outdoors (by the manufacturer as well as the code), and the storage of 20 lb. LP gas cylinders used to operate these units are not permitted inside of commercial building.

Exception:

NFPA 1: 10.10.6.3

This code does allow for listed equipment to be permanently installed per the manufacturer's instructions.

It is our desire to inform you so you can protect your property, business, patrons, and the employees of your establishment.

Scott P. Morris Fire Marshal