



**CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE  
500 DALTON AVE  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28206**



---

## **Code/Procedural Interpretation**

**CFD Interpretation:** Use of Outdoor Grills at Multi-Family Occupancies

**Date:** June 9, 2014

**Code Reference:** North Carolina Fire Code, Section 308

**Subject:** What are the fire code requirements for using portable grills at apartments and condominiums?

**Interpretation:**

The use of charcoal burners or any open-flame cooking devices are prohibited on combustible balconies or with-in 10 feet of combustible construction at multi-family type occupancies (apartment homes and condominiums).

To put this in simpler terms, if the balcony is made of combustible materials, or if the placement of the grill is such that it will be located with-in 10 feet of ANY combustible construction, then grilling is prohibited. This does NOT apply to electric grills.

*EXCEPTION: Where both the building **and** balcony is protected with an automatic fire sprinkler system.*