

Hotel and Motel Safety

Select accommodations that have sprinklers and smoke alarms in guest rooms.

Consider fire safety when checking into a hotel or motel.

Count the number of **doors** down the hall **to the nearest fire exit**.

Never use elevators in a fire.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, ask for a *Hearing Impaired Kit* from the front desk that has a strobe smoke alarm.

Keep your room key, eyeglasses and a flashlight on the night table. **If a fire occurs, take them with you to the door.**

- If the door feels cool, open it a crack. Be ready to close the door if hot air, flames, or smoke rush into the room.
- If this does not occur, but the hall is smoke-filled, crawl down the hall counting doors to the nearest exit.
- If you cannot reach the exit, turn around and count doors back to your room. Unlock the door and re-enter.

If it is unsafe to leave your room

- **Fill the tub** with cold water.
- **Stuff wet towels around the door** to keep smoke out.
- If possible, open a window and hang a sheet outside to signal for help.
- **Cover your face** with a wet cloth and stay low if smoke gets in the room.
- **Do not jump.** Call 911 to tell them where you are.

Fireworks

Enjoy the many professional, supervised fireworks displays.

The possession and use of all fireworks by private citizens is **illegal in Massachusetts**. This includes sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers and cherry bombs, and more.

It is illegal to purchase fireworks in another state and transport them into Massachusetts.

Do not purchase fireworks by mail. Government cannot prohibit the advertising and sale of fireworks by mail, but police do confiscate illegal shipments of fireworks. Many consumers attempting to circumvent the law have lost both their money and their fireworks.

Burn First Aid

- **Stop, Drop, and Roll** to extinguish a clothing fire.
- Cool a burn. For minor burns, run cool water over the burn immediately.
- Seek emergency medical help immediately for more serious burns. Call 9-1-1.
- Use sunscreen to avoid sunburn.

summer



Safety Tips



The Massachusetts State Fire Marshal offers these tips for a safe and happy summer.

Gasoline and Lawn Mowers

Gasoline vapors are highly flammable. They stay on your clothing and **can ignite** if you light a match or cigarette.

Store gasoline only in approved containers, outside, or in a building not attached to the house. Never keep gasoline inside the home.

Keep gasoline away from all heat sources such as smoking materials, pilot lights, campfires, and grills.

Never fuel a lawn mower while it is hot. Let it cool off first.

Keep hands and feet away from a mower while it is running.



Barbecue Safely

Use all barbecue grills 10 feet away from the side of any building, outdoors.

Never leave a burning grill unattended. Children should never play near grills or propane cylinders.

Never use gasoline on any grill!

Grills can only be used on first floor decks, balconies or patios if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or it is at ground level.

Grills are prohibited on any porch, balcony, or deck that has a roof or overhang.

Gas Grills

LP-gas is heavier than air and sinks. A leaky grill could pose a hazard to people below. Possible ignition sources include smoking materials, air conditioners, compressors, pilot lights and cars.

Keep all LP-gas outside, 10 feet away from building openings such as doors, windows, dryer vents and 20 feet away from air intake vents and all ignition sources.

Before lighting a grill:

- Make sure all connections are secure and tight, and open the lid.
- Caution! If the flame goes out, turn off the gas and wait 10 minutes for excess gas to dissipate before relighting.
- Make sure the grease trap is clean.

Charcoal Grills

Use only charcoal lighter fluid to start charcoal grills.

Once coals are lit, **never add more lighter fluid to the fire**. Flames may travel up the stream of fluid resulting in serious burns.

Dispose of ashes in a metal container.

When Your Car Overheats

Always:

- **Turn off your car and wait at least one-half hour before attempting to open the radiator.**
- **Use a heavy rag** or cloth to open the radiator.
- **Stand back as far as possible. Keep your face out of the way** in case the radiator should rupture!

Opening hot car radiators can cause serious burns. These burns can be prevented with patience and appropriate precautions.

When your car overheats, or even when it's just been running for a while, pressure builds up inside the radiator.

If you open a hot car radiator, hot steam and liquid can splash on your face and hands causing painful, disfiguring burns.