



Tens of thousands of families will fire up barbecue grills during the next few months and GMR wants you to be aware that grill fires can ignite instantly leading to devastating property damage, serious injury or death. The Home Safety Council reports that fires and burns are the third leading cause of unintentional injuries and related deaths. On average each year grill fires cause:

- 13 deaths
- 120 injuries
- \$70 million in property damage

Children under five account for approximately 22 percent of burn injuries involving grills so GMR advises you to keep an eye on little ones too.

To keep you and your family safe this summer, the GMR team offers some advice for safe barbecuing:



Select a location away from children, pets or flammable objects



Keep a fire extinguisher close by



Never leave a grill unattended



Keep the grill clean by removing excess grease and residue



Use long-handled tongs and spatulas with heat-resistant handles

Also, make sure to follow manufacturer instructions. All grills come with model-specific recommendations and restrictions so make sure to read the manual before using.