

## [NASCC Fire Department](#)

### *Topic Summer Safety*

NAS Corpus Christi Fire Emergency Services continues to embrace a community-based coalition approach to public education. In recognition of National Fire Protection Association Risk Watch program that targets a school aged audience and overall fire safety awareness the following safety tips should be considered as summer quickly approaches.

**Barbecue safety-** When using barbecue grills on decks or patios, be sure to leave sufficient space from siding and eaves.

- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use.
- Keep children and pets far away from grills.
- With charcoal grills, only use charcoal starter fluids designed for barbecue grills and do not add fluid after coals have been lit.
- With gas grills, be sure that the hose connection is tight and check hoses carefully for leaks. Applying soapy water to the hoses will easily and safely reveal any leaks.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and have the grill repaired by a professional, if necessary.

**Water Safety-** Extra caution should be used when around water, for children and adults.

- Only swim in approved areas.
- Always supervise children near water at all times and make sure that children learn to swim.
- Check the depth of the water with a lifeguard before jumping in.
- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFD (personal floatation device) when boating, jet-skiing, tubing or water-skiing. Air-filled swimming aids, like water wings or inner tubes, are not substitutes for approved PFDs. An adult should always supervise children using these devices.
- Be sure to extinguish all smoking materials and shut down motors, fans and heating devices before fueling a boat. In case of a spill, wipe up fuel immediately and check the bilge for fuel leakage and odors. After fueling and before starting the boat's motor, ventilate with the blower for at least four minutes

**Scooter, bike and pedestrian safety -** Scooters, bikes, in-line skates and skateboards are associated with numerous injuries yearly.

- Wear a comfortable, properly fitted helmet bearing the label of an independent testing lab. Be sure that the helmet sits level on top of the head-not rocking in any direction-and always fasten the safety strap.
- Be sure that safety gear (wrist, elbow and kneepads) fits properly and does not interfere with the rider's movement, vision or hearing. Wrist pads are not recommended for scooter riders as they may affect their ability to maneuver.
- Ride scooters and bikes only on smooth, paved surfaces and only ride during daylight hours.
- Learn the proper hand signals and use them when you turn or stop.
- Come to a complete stop before entering driveways, paths or sidewalks, then look left, right and left again for bikes, cars or pedestrians heading your way.
- Teach crossing safety to children by example