



Dear Subscriber,

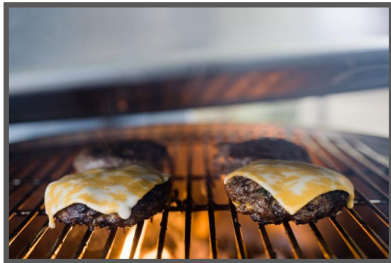
As summer time heats up, so too does our risk of accidental fires. This quarter, we will focus on fire & life safety topics relevant to the summer months. We hope you find our newly formatted newsletter informative & educational.

For additional fire prevention tips, please be sure to engage with us on our updated social media platforms linked below:

<https://www.facebook.com/santafecountyfd/>

<https://www.instagram.com/santafecountyfd/>

*\* Please see page 5 for information regarding the recent ban on fireworks! \**



## Summer Grilling Safety

Between 2014 & 2018, over 19,700 patients went to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills. Statistics from those same years indicate US fire departments responded to over 10,600 fires involving grills. 1 in every 5 grill fires was caused by a dirty grill. Please follow these tips to ensure your summer grilling season is a success.

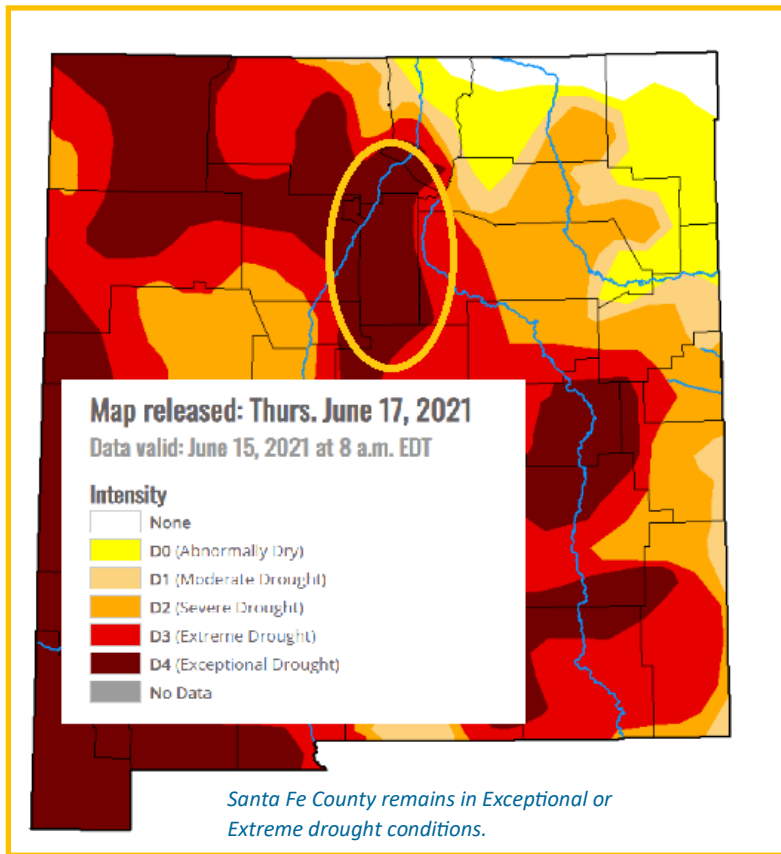
- Keep your grill clean of accumulated food & grease.
- Place your grill on an outdoor non-combustible surface when in use.
- Use only approved lighter fluid for lighting briquettes.
- When lighting a gas grill, place the lid in the open position.
- Never leave your grill unattended when cooking.
- When using a gas grill, turn off the flow of gas at the tank valve before turning off the control knobs.
- If using briquettes or wood, allow ashes to completely cool before discarding into a metal container.
- Wait for the grill to cool completely before placing a grill cover on.

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### Did you Know!

- SFCFD protects approximately 1900 square miles.
- Santa Fe County is also home to four Pueblos –
  - Nambe
  - Pojoaque
  - Tesuque
  - San Ildefonso



## Wildfire Season is Here- Be Sure Your Home is Ready!

- Be sure your house address is clearly visible for 1st Responders.
- Preplan evacuation routes out of your neighborhood.
- Keep firewood stored at least 30 feet away from structures.
- Clear out dead vegetation that has collected next to structures.
- Keep porches and the underside of decks free of ignitable debris.
- Trim tree branches up to 10 feet above the ground where practical.
- Know where utility cut-offs are located. (Water, Gas, & Electric)
- Have an emergency evacuation supply kit assembled & ready.
- Self-register for the “ALERT Santa Fe” emergency notification system by going to <https://www.smart911.com>
- Follow SFCFD’s “Ready, Set, Go” Guide for your personal wildfire action plan. (See the link to the right)

To help you assess your wildfire risk, you can request a property assessment by contacting the Fire Prevention/Risk Reduction Division at (505) 995-6523.

### Wildfire Season

Studies show that as many as 80% of homes lost to wildland fires could have been prevented if homeowners had put into place a few fire-safe practices. Working together will help keep all of us safer this wildfire season.

Additional Wildfire-related links you may find helpful:

<https://www.santafecountynm.gov/fire/wildland>

[Ready, Set, Go](#)

[Wildfire Risks](#)



## Campfires

According to the U.S. Department of Interior, as many as 90% of all wildland fires are caused by people. One reason is from campfires left unattended. That's why it's important to be safe when camping or when having a campfire. Before building your campfire, be sure there are no fire restrictions or burn bans in the area where you are camping.

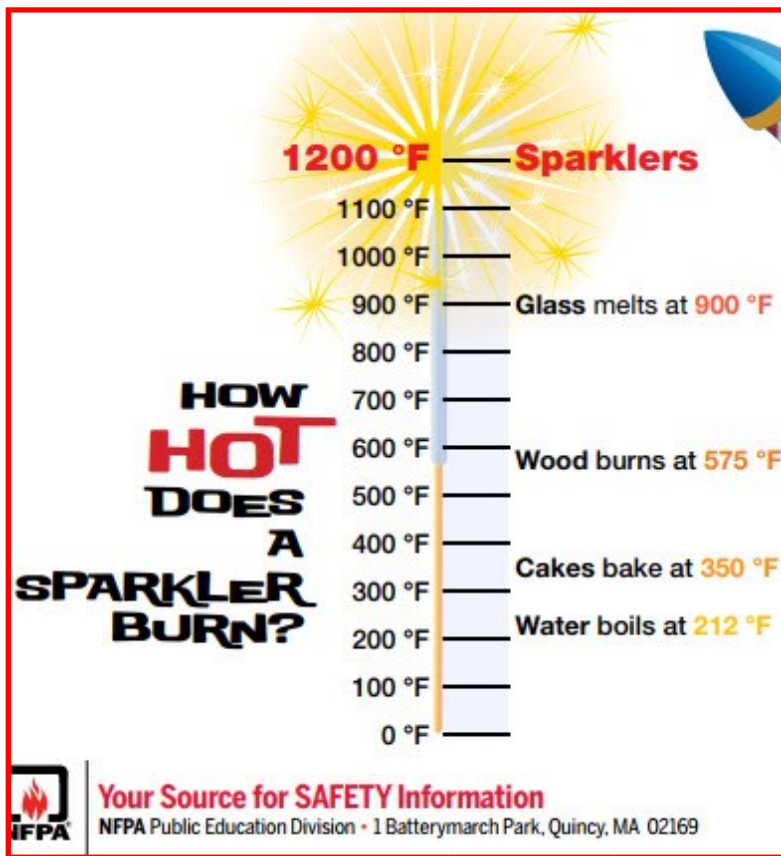
## How to Properly Extinguish A Campfire

### ***Let's Prepare The Campfire!***

- Be prepared by bringing a shovel & having plenty of water available.
- Use a fire ring if it's provided, otherwise choose an open, level area, away from heavy fuels such as logs, brush or decaying leaves.
- Stay clear of tents, shrubs, trees or other flammable objects. Watch for low-hanging branches!
- Keep your fire to a manageable size, and watch for embers that spark and leave your pit area. Never leave your campfire unattended!

### ***Time To Put Out Your Fire!***

- When possible, allow the fire to burn completely to ash, then pour water into the pit, making a soupy mix with your shovel.
- Next, add fresh dirt or soil to the soupy mix and stir it in.
- Check that the fire pit is cool. If it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave!



## Fireworks

Over one-third of fireworks-related injuries occurred to children under the age of 15. Firecrackers, reloadable shells, & sparklers are the leading cause of injuries with sparklers accounting for about 1/4 of all fireworks-related emergency room injuries. Almost half of all fires reported on July 4th were started by fireworks. 59% were brush, grass, and forest fires.

## Leave Fireworks Shows to The Pros

- Professional fireworks shows create an experience unmatched by store-bought fireworks. These displays of color bursts high in the sky, inspire and entertain! Timed with music, these family-fun experiences create treasured memories. For show times, check with communities like Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, & Albuquerque.

*If you choose to use permissible fireworks, follow these safety measures:*

- Use only approved fireworks bought from a reputable, licensed retailer.
- Have a water source nearby & ready in case of an unintended fire.
- Use fireworks outdoors in an open area away from homes & structures.
- Adults should supervise all fireworks activities. Sparklers can be very dangerous since they burn at over 1200 degrees!
- Attempting to relight “duds” is dangerous. Wait 20 minutes, then soak in water.
- Pets should be kept indoors in a quiet area, where they are safe from loud noises.

SANTA FE COUNTY FIRE DEPT.

*We Are ONE - Nosotros Somos UNO*



OUR PRIORITY IS TO PROVIDE COMPASSIONATE, HIGH QUALITY EMERGENCY SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF SANTA FE COUNTY.

## SFCFD - Who We Are -

The Santa Fe County Fire Department is a combination fire department integrating paid staff and the service of dedicated volunteers. Formed in 1997 from the consolidation of 15 volunteer fire districts and the former Office of the County Fire Marshal, SFCFD protects approximately 1900 square miles of unincorporated area as well as the incorporated Town of Edgewood. Within these borders, the Department provides protection to approximately 76,000 residents, as well as several million square feet of commercial development. Santa Fe County is also home to four Pueblos – Nambe, Pojoaque, Tesuque, and San Ildefonso - which rely on the Santa Fe County Fire Department for emergency services. The Department maintains 32 fire stations countywide including five staffed regional stations and one staffed substation.



### Fire Prevention Risk Reduction Division

35 Camino Justicia  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

PHONE: 505-995-6523  
FAX: 505-992-3065

[fireprevention@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:fireprevention@santafecountynm.gov)

Engage with us on social media  
[Instagram @santafecountyfd](#)  
[Facebook @santafecountyfd](#)

#### **\* RESOLUTION TO BAN FIREWORKS IS NOW IN EFFECT \***

As a show of solidarity in working with our state and local partners, The Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners, under the recommendation of Santa Fe County Fire Marshal Jaome Blay, has enacted RESOLUTION NO. 2021-063. The resolution will remain in effect for 30 days from the day it was signed, and may be reissued if the County's drought conditions warrant further action be taken. You can also find a copy of the resolution on the Santa Fe County Fire Department Webpage located here; [Fireworks Information](#)

