Use of Barbeque Grills or other Cooking Devices: Multi Family Dwellings

This advisory is in reference to regulations stemming from January 1st, 2015 adoption of NFPA 1, comprehensive Fire Code. This advisory is specific to use of outside cooking and heating equipment for any dwelling other than a single-family residence including condominium and townhouse complexes. It states:

527 CMR 10.11.6.1 – For other than a single family dwelling, no hibachi, grill or other similar devices used for cooking, heating or any other purpose shall be used or kindled on a balcony, under any overhang portion or within 10 feet of any structure.

If you live in any other type of dwelling other than a single family home, you cannot use cooking or heating equipment on balconies or under them. It also states that cooking must be done at least 10 feet from the structure if cooking outside.

We understand that this code affects many residents and we ask for your assistance in enforcing this code. This code was adopted because there have been numerous fires resulting from outside cooking within Massachusetts. With this provision it, is thought there will be a reduction of fires saving lives and property.

Chief Peter Andrade
Dartmouth Fire District One