

Firework Safety

The Rio Verde community and surrounding Tonto National Forest is under an “Extreme Fire Danger” warning.

Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades and fireworks. The National Safety Council and the Rio Verde Fire District advises everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals, and not to use any fireworks at home. They may be legal, but they are not safe.

BBQ Tips

- Check grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks. Make sure there are no sharp bends in the hose or tubing.
- Move gas hoses as far away as possible from hot surfaces and dripping hot grease. Propane supply hoses may ignite from excess grease.
- Always keep propane gas containers upright.
- Never store a spare gas container under or near the grill or indoors.
- Charcoal and gas grills are designed for outdoor use only.

Smoking on the Golf Course

With the “Extreme Fire Danger” warning in our community, please refrain from smoking on the golf course. A brush fire on any of our community golf courses will be difficult for fire crews to extinguish due to access for fire apparatus. Deposit all cigar/cigarette butts in proper containers. Never throw a cigar/cigarette butt onto the ground.

Defensible Space Protects Your Home

Homeowners and contractors should create a well-maintained, live vegetation zone to prevent damage to structures in case of wildland fires. This "defensible space" acts as a fire break and should contain only small brush and ground cover ***to prevent a continuous path of flammable materials leading to inhabited structures.***

Specific Preventative Actions Recommended

- Maintain a 15-foot zone around your home; remove perennial grasses and thin overgrown bushes; remove dead branches or branches touching the ground.
- Remove dead vegetation that is down on the ground from an additional 15-foot zone for maximum protection (30 feet total).