



July 4, 2019

### **City offices closed July 4; no tag period**

City offices and 311 will be closed on July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Trash pickup will follow the holiday schedule – collection for residents whose regular trash day is on Thursday or Friday will be delayed by one day that week.

As the 4th of July falls on Thursday, our trash will be collected on Saturday, the 6th. **TRASH AMNESTY** July 5 is also the start of the twice-a-year no-tag period. **All KCMO residents can set up to 15 bags at the curb without attaching tags.** Just remember that you can't include any hazardous waste, bulky items or leaf and brush. The service runs from July 5-10.

### **GRILL SAFETY 2019**

#### **Read the Instructions that came with your grill.**

**Wash off your grill before and after use.** This will help with grease buildup that can cause flare ups and the uneven cooking of your food.

**Do not grill within 12 feet of your house / garage or other structure.** Set the grill up away from where kids or pets may be playing but close enough where it can always be monitored. When you need to step away from the grill, designate a grown up to watch it until your return. **There should always be eyes on the grill from fire up to cool down.**

**Always Grill on a Sturdy Surface.** Always place the grill on a level, sturdy surface. Test the grill for sturdiness before adding the charcoal. If using propane, make sure all nozzles are connected tightly and properly. For safety, when using any type of open flame, keep a source of water ready for flare-ups or other emergencies.

**Watch Your Smoke.** Heavy smoke from a grill can be toxic so set it up so that smoke doesn't blow into your or your neighbor's home.

**Never Store or Use Portable Grills Inside** Never keep propane in your house, garage, or car. Store near the grill outside.

Portable grills can be used practically anywhere but never cook inside your house, garage or near your car. Never use a grill in any area where there is flammable material.

Don't use or store even a lukewarm grill near the gas meter or other gas hookups.

**Use Caution with Lighter Fluid** Do not use gasoline to start a fire. Gasoline is toxic and is harmful if digested. Use a chimney or a charcoal starter instead of lighter fluid, the food will taste better, and it is much less dangerous. If you are going to use lighter fluid, avoid flare ups and possible serious injury by applying in short spurts especially over an open flame.

If using lighter fluid, soak the coals before lighting and then light the flame with a long match or a rolled-up newspaper.

**Avoid Flare Ups on Portable Grills.** Grease is released out of most meats cooked over an open flame. To mitigate the occasional grease flare ups, close the top of the grill and the vents to suffocate the flame for a few moments.

If you can't wait for the coal to die down, you should get rid of them in a designated fireproof receptacle. Hot coals should be watched until you have confirmed they are cool and until then should not be stored on wooden deck, under building eaves, or inside a structure as they can flare up and cause a fire.

To all our residents, "Bon Appetite!" and have a "Happy and Safe 4th of July!"