

Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's Office  
Official Interpretation and Code Directive 2024-3

OKSFM Requirements for Grilling and Cooking on Boat Docks  
Effective July 1, 2024

The guidelines set forth through the codes adopted by the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC) and enforced by the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's Office (OKSFM) can help to establish the minimum requirements for Grilling and Cooking on Boat Docks. Presently, the Oklahoma legislature, through the OUBCC, has adopted relevant provisions of the International Fire Code (IFC) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes and standards pertaining to the subject matter of this directive. This directive is intended to help simplify and bring clarity as to what is required under presently adopted and applicable code, in light of recently enacted legislation.

HOUSE BILL NO. 3169 was passed by the Oklahoma House and Senate, and subsequently signed into law May 6, 2024 by Governor Kevin Stitt.

**Summary and Requirements of House Bill No. 3169**

This bill amended Title 74 O.S. Section 324.7, Subsection D, to the Oklahoma Statutes. The key provisions are:

D. The State Fire Marshal Commission shall promulgate rules allowing the use and storage of propane-fueled grills and flattop griddles and electric wood pellet grills on boat docks; provided, that the act of using such cooking instruments is performed within ten (10) feet of a fire extinguisher. The fire extinguisher shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the most current version of NFPA 10. Any violations or penalties shall be assessed to the person committing acts contrary to this subsection. The owner or operator of the marina or dock shall not be held liable for the actions of its tenants or others.

**OKSFM Commission Requirements of House Bill No. 3169**

In accordance with HB3169, the State Fire Marshal Commission intends to promulgate rules through the formal rulemaking process at its earliest opportunity regarding this subject matter. As of the time of this publication, the following rules allowing the specific use of the aforementioned cooking appliances on boat docks are in effect pursuant to adoption by the OUBCC via IFC 308.1.4 and NFPA 303.4.8:

- 1) Grills and or cooking devices shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. Not less than one portable fire extinguisher complying with NFPA 10 and or IFC 906 with a minimum 4-A rating.
- 2) The use of portable cooking equipment on combustible boat docks shall be allowed provided that such cooking equipment is located on a non-combustible surface. The surface shall extend past the appliance to catch any flaming materials that may escape. Examples of non-combustible surfaces are not limited to metal, cement board, stone/rock surface, fire retardant treated wood, etc.
- 3) A minimum clearance of 24 in. shall be maintained horizontally and 60 in. vertically from combustibles, 10 feet from any flammable or combustible liquids and or manufacturers requirements.
- 4) LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container shall have a water capacity not greater than 2-1/2 pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].
- 5) Any outdoor or open grilling/cooking shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous or upon a burn ban issued by any governmental authority which specifically prohibits such activities.
- 6) The fire code official, peace officer, or marina owner or operator is authorized to order the extinguishment upon any cooking or grilling that creates or adds to a hazardous situation.
- 7) Any use of LP gas shall be in accordance with the Oklahoma LP Gas Administration regulations.
- 8) These requirements **do not** apply to any federally owned or operated property.

It is our hope that we can work together while remaining committed to maintaining the utmost level of life safety by allowing cooking and grilling on boat docks as safe as possible through consistent and congruent code enforcement.

G. Keith Bryant  
State Fire Marshal

