



### July 2008 E-Bulletin

#### **USFA Monthly Focus: Summer Fire Safety**

- Every summer approximately 5,000 people are injured by charcoal/wood-burning and propane grill fires.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) found that gas and charcoal grills are responsible for 3,400 structure fires in or on home properties, resulting in a combined direct property loss of \$137 million. Gas-fueled grills caused an estimated 2,800 home structure fires and 4,400 home outdoor fires in 2005. Charcoal and other solid-fueled grills caused an estimated 600 home structure fires and 500 outdoor fires.
- Go to [www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus) for fire safety facts about safe barbequing and fire pit practices. Use these facts in discussions and meetings with your community.

“This summer don’t become a casualty—be fire safe!”

**For more information and resources regarding this subject, please visit:  
[www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus)**

#### **USFA Quick Response Media Corps (QRMC)**

The Quick Response serves as a source of information and support for Fire Service personnel who share a commitment to getting fire safety in the news. When USFA learns of a fire death in your community via news reports, we contact the local media with the appropriate fact sheet. If you signed up to be a *Quick Response* media spokesperson, USFA may refer media to you for follow-up interviews. As always, local fire officials are an important source of information for the media and the community, helping to educate citizens and prevent future fires.

#### **Quick Response Media Corps by the Numbers:**

- Over 2,100 members of the fire service nationwide have enrolled in the QRMC to date.
- From May 2008 to July 2008 over 70 people have become new QRMC members.

**Our Goal:**

- The USFA would like to enroll over 5,000 members in the Quick Response Media Corps by 2010!

Media Corps members receive:

- Tips on how to get fire safety and prevention messages in the local news.
- Instant alerts when the Quick Response program sends information to local media in response to a fatal residential fire in your area.
- Support and coordination by the Quick Response team when local media request an interview with a local Fire Service spokesperson.
- "Sneak previews" of USFA's upcoming public education programs, so you can be a local spokesperson for the media.

**To enroll in the QR Media Corps, please visit:**

**<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/feedback/mediacorps.jsp>**

#### **Did You Know the USFA has FREE Information?**

Did you know that you can order and/or download fire safety campaign materials like brochures, posters and community toolkits – ALL FOR FREE – from the USFA's Publications Office? It's easy to do through USFA's Web site.

To order and/or download materials online, click on the following fire safety campaign links:

- **Fire Safety Campaign for Parents and Caregivers of Babies and Toddlers** (download and hardcopy) <http://www.usfaparents.gov/materials/index.shtm>
- **Fire Safety Campaign for People 50-Plus** (download only) <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/campaigns/50plus/downloads.shtm>
- **Smoking & Home Fires Campaign** (download and hardcopy) <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/campaigns/smoking/materials/index.shtm>
- **Tribute to Heroes** (download and broadcast-quality tape PSA) <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/campaigns/smoking/materials/index.shtm>