

# Tips for Tailgaters

## Fire Safety Rules and Tips for Anyone Tailgating on Campus

Tailgating at ballgames has become an autumn ritual on campus - almost as big as the game itself. Past surveys suggest however, that 30 percent of tailgaters never set foot in the stadium. Today's tailgater can quickly transform campus lawns, parking lots and fields into overnight gathering spots for family, friends and acquaintances to come together and cheer on their team. The typical setup can include generators, grills, portable fire pits, extension cords, TV's, satellite dishes and more. Such devices, in close proximity to fuels, combustibles and people, present many challenges and raise the need for increased awareness toward good fire safety. While common sense safety precautions always apply, the following tailgating rules and tips should be reviewed anytime you are planning to tailgate on the AU campus.

### Know the Rules:



Generators, grills, and flammable materials such as propane and gasoline are not allowed within 50 feet of campus buildings or in other designated no-grill areas.



All fires and hot coals must be contained within grills or other containers designed specifically for that purpose and should never be left unattended.



Charcoal fires should be extinguished thoroughly with water before leaving them unattended.



Tailgaters should place their charcoal in the designated containers rather than dumping it on the ground or in dumpsters. A limited number of hot charcoal containers are located in tailgate areas and are designed to accommodate hot or cold briquettes. If a container is not available in the area where you picnic, you should remove your used charcoal from AU grounds for safe disposal. The containers are intended as a safe means for disposal of hot charcoal briquettes.



Tailgating and grilling are not allowed in the parking decks.



In no case should barbecue grills or containers for outdoor fires be taken inside campus buildings.

**Source:** Auburn University – Tailgating Regulations

(Link: [http://www.auburn.edu/communications\\_marketing/gameday/tailgating.html](http://www.auburn.edu/communications_marketing/gameday/tailgating.html))

### Additional Tailgating Tips:



A fully charged, multi-purpose ABC fire extinguisher should be present and easily accessible.



LP Tanks should be D.O.T. approved for propane use, equipped with a U.L. approved safety relief valve, be in good condition and properly connected. LP cylinders should be secured in an upright position.



Always use match-light or quick-light type of charcoal. Use of lighter fluid is strongly discouraged.



Portable generators should not be filled while running and any fuel should be stored in a UL listed safety can. All generators and fuel should be kept at a safe distance from cooking appliances.

**For Police, Fire and Rescue Call 9-1-1**

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### Tips for Tailgaters in RVs:



Be aware that a hot exhaust pipe or catalytic converter can ignite dry grass when parking in a field.



Keep your RV's underpinnings clean. Grease and oil buildup on the engine and transmission can, when combined with a fuel leak or short-circuited wire, lead to a fire.



Gasoline and propane can obviously pose an immediate and explosive danger. Diesel fuel on the other hand, dissipates more slowly and therefore can remain a danger for a longer period.



When using the galley stove remember that if the flame goes out, the gas will continue to flow and could result in an explosion. Never leave the stove unattended or use it to heat your coach.



In a compact galley, combustibles such as paper towels, Styrofoam plates or plastic are more apt to be closer to the stove. Use more caution when in your RV than you do at home.



Prior to arrival, check any fuel burning appliances to ensure they are properly vented and free of obstructions such as cobwebs, birds' nests, insects, etc...



Spontaneous combustion can occur even in damp charcoal. Buy charcoal fresh and store it in a covered metal container.



Always have a fully charged, multi-purpose or ABC fire extinguisher available and easily accessible. Periodically invert and shake or tap the bottom of your extinguisher to loosen the powder inside. The jarring from the RV does not loosen the powder; but, in fact, packs the powder potentially rendering the fire extinguisher ineffective.



It's recommended you install and maintain at least one smoke alarm and one carbon monoxide alarm near the sleeping area in your RV and make sure everyone understands what the different alarms indicate.



The first rule of RV firefighting is to save lives first and property second. Have a fire escape plan in place that all family members are familiar with and have practiced. If a fire occurs, get yourself and your family to safety before attempting to extinguish any fire. Never re-enter a burning RV! **GET OUT AND STAY OUT!**

**Source:** RVtravel.com (<http://www.rvtravel.com/publish/firerv.shtml>)  
WindsorFire.com (<http://www.windsorfire.com/divisions-prevention-rv-fire-safety-guidelines>)  
RV University.com (<http://www.rvuniversity.com/article.php/20070514105149937>)

### A Final Word:

After the final whistle blows and the cheering stops, please remember to leave the Auburn campus as beautiful as you found it by placing all trash and recycling in the proper bins located throughout university tailgating areas, RV lots and the stadium for your convenience. Litter and recycling bags will also be made available in tailgate areas and RV lots to help keep the university litter-free. Be a tidy Tiger!

Travel safe to and from the game and remember - always practice fire safety when at home and when on campus!

**For Police, Fire and Rescue Call 9-1-1**