



Welcome!

Summer 2022

Read on for advice on ways to stay safe for you and your family this Summer

BBQ Safety

We all want to enjoy a BBQ over the summer months, and by following a few simple rules you can ensure the whole family can have fun!

- Check your barbecue is in good working order.
- Ensure the barbecue is on a flat site, well away from a shed, trees or shrubs.
- Keep children, garden games and pets well away from the cooking area.
- Never leave the barbecue unattended!
- Keep a bucket of water or sand nearby for emergencies.
- Ensure the barbecue is cool before attempting to move it.
- DO NOT use in an enclosed space.
- Dispose of ashes in a fireproof container and damp down with water.
- DO NOT use disposable BBQ's in the Countryside.
- Never have a BBQ on a balcony, in a property or above ground level.

Disposable BBQ's

Although they may look safe as they are in their own metal tin, the container is very thin and easily gets hot enough to catch fire to most things you would put it on, including grass!

They also give off harmful gases including Carbon Monoxide which is poisonous. Never use them indoors and never on your balcony if you live in a flat.



[Barbecue Safety](#)



what3words

To help the Emergency Services further, please download the What3Words app so that if the worst should happen you can give them an exact location of where you are.

The APP is free to download and could save your life!





Be Water Aware

As summer approaches, and the temperatures soar, its only too tempting to feel the need to cool off in an inviting stretch of water. However, jumping straight into open water can cause potentially fatal cold-water shock even on the warmest day!

Always be aware of the dangers that open water can pose

- Never swim alone in case you need help.
- Don't drink alcohol when undertaking water related activities, it impairs judgement and your ability to swim.
- Actively supervise children in and around water - drowning can happen fast and silently.
- If you find yourself unexpectedly in the water, don't panic, extend your arms and legs out and float on your back until the effect of cold-water shock passes.
- Never enter the water to try and rescue someone. Call 999 and ask for the Fire Service if inland and the Coastguard if you are at the coast.

DO NOT swim near or in Weirs

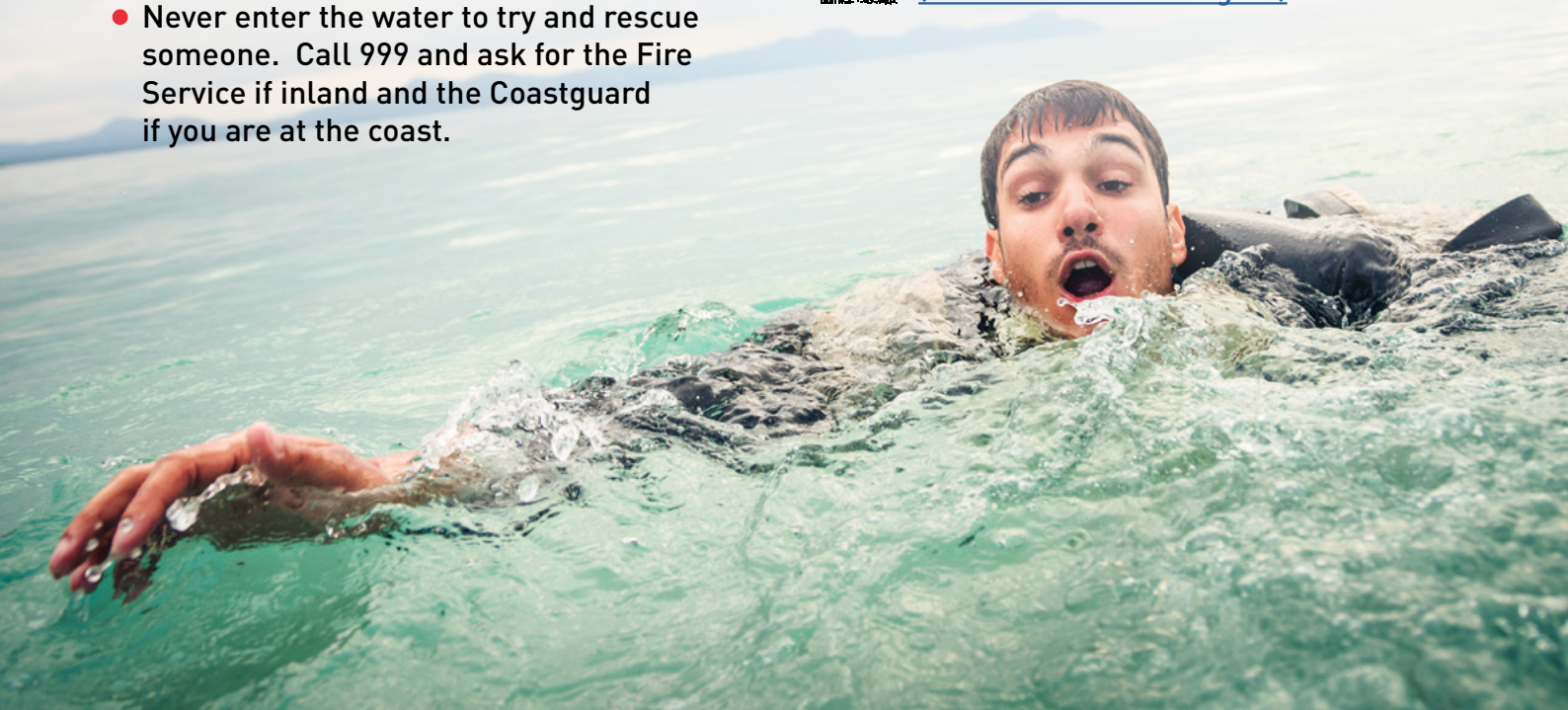
A weir is a feature built in a river which slows down the flow of water. They are dangerous to swimmers as you can get caught in the flow of water.

DO NOT swim near Locks

Locks are used to allow canal boats to pass from one level of water to another. When a lock is being operated there are millions of litres of water used to lower or fill the lock, and these create dangerous currents which can cause drowning.



[Be Water Aware
\(nationalfirechiefs.org.uk\)](https://nationalfirechiefs.org.uk)





Arson in Rural Areas

The countryside and the properties within it are easy targets for Arson

Neighbourhoods can reduce the likelihood of arson occurring by promoting neighbourhood watches, educating people about recognizing and reporting unusual activities, and implementing improved internal and external security for homes and businesses.

You can help to reduce the risk by following these simple steps:

- Do not leave ignitable liquids within easy reach.
- Dispose of all rubbish and do not leave any laying about.
- Do not allow the lighting of open fires or barbecues.
- Ensure cigarettes etc are extinguished carefully.
- Only allow camping and picnics in selected areas.
- Provide litter bins for bottles and other rubbish - and empty them regularly.
- Ensure parents supervise their children.
- Regularly check and maintain open water supplies for firefighting.
- Ensure 'Fire Danger' warning signs are in place.

1 in 5 fires on farms
& **49%** of rural fires are started deliberately



[NFCC Reduce arson RURAL advice leaflet.pdf \(nationalfirechiefs.org.uk\)](https://nationalfirechiefs.org.uk)

Have you checked your smoke alarms lately?

You should do this once a week where possible

If you do not have smoke detectors at home, Herts Fire and Rescue Service will carry out a safe and well check for you.

They will fit smoke detectors for you for free.

Please ring your local fire station to book today!

- Hertford Fire Station 01992 507611.
- Cheshunt Fire Station 01992 901900.
- Bishops Stortford Fire Station 01279 696800.
- It won't cost you a penny and it could save your life.
- All visits are agreed by appointment only at a time to suit you.
- Only uniformed staff will visit and will always carry an ID card.



[Home | StayWise](#)



[Fire safety home visits, school visits and open days | Hertfordshire County Council](#)