

Wire Grill Brushes: Worst BBQ Ingredient

OSF HealthCare Newsroom

Matt Sheehan – Media Relations Coordinator

BROADCAST SCRIPT

INTRO:

SUMMER HAS ARRIVED – AND THAT MEANS GRILLING SEASON IS BACK AFTER ITS WINTER HIBERNATION. BUT AS AMERICANS ENJOY GRILLING THEIR BURGERS... CHICKEN... VEGETABLES AND MORE... THERE'S ONE INGREDIENT YOU WANT TO STEER CLEAR OF.

VO

AND THAT'S THE BRISTLES ON METAL WIRE BRUSHES. DR. BRIAN CURTIS WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – SAYS EACH YEAR 150-200 PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES ARE INJURED EACH YEAR AFTER SWALLOWING BRISTLES FROM A BRUSH USED TO CLEAN THE GRILL.

HE SAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELVES FROM ENDING UP IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM – IT'S ALL ABOUT PREPARATION.

17 SECOND SOT

“You can use aluminum foil, some people use nylon. I just use a wool brush on mine. If you don't want to go away from the wire brush, then you really have to inspect your grill very closely to make sure there's nothing stuck on it.”

VO TAG

DR. CURTIS SAYS IF YOU DO SWALLOW A BRISTLE – YOU NEED TO BE EVALUATED BY A DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY. HE SAYS THE BRISTLES CAN GET STUCK INSIDE YOUR ESOPHAGUS... STOMACH... AND SMALL INTESTINE.. WHICH COULD LEAD TO YOU NEEDING A SURGERY TO REMOVE THE BRISTLE.

VO/SOT #2

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AND THAT'S THE BRISTLES ON METAL WIRE BRUSHES. DR. BRIAN CURTIS WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – SAYS EACH YEAR 150-200 PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES ARE INJURED AFTER SWALLOWING BRISTLES. AND THAT CAN LEAD TO A TRIP TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM.

20 SECOND SOT

“The bristles can become embedded in your tongue. They can be embedded in the back of your throat, esophagus, stomach, and small intestine. They can cause perforations, because it's like swallowing a small needle. There are people every year that have surgeries trying to find these small objects. Because they are very tiny.”

VO TAG

DR. CURTIS SAYS IF YOU BELIEVE YOU'VE SWALLOWED A WIRE BRUSH BRISTLE – YOU NEED TO BE EVALUATED BY A DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.