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DEEP FRYING A TURKEY FOR THANKSGIVING SAFETY TIPS

Deep frying a turkey can be a delicious way to prepare your Thanksgiving meal, but it requires careful attention to safety due to the hot oil involved. Here are some safety tips for deep frying a turkey:

CHOOSE THE RIGHT LOCATION:

Set up your turkey frying station outdoors on a flat, noncombustible surface, away from structures, overhanging trees, or anything flammable. Never use a deep fryer indoors.

USE A STABLE COOKING SURFACE:

Ensure the cooking surface is stable, level, and won't tip over during the frying process.

THAW THE TURKEY:

Thaw the turkey completely before frying. Ice crystals on a frozen turkey can cause dangerous oil splatters.

MEASURE THE OIL:

Determine the amount of oil needed by placing the turkey in the empty fryer pot and filling it with water until the turkey is submerged. Remove the turkey and mark the water level as a guide for the oil.

DON'T OVERFILL:

Only fill the fryer with oil to the recommended level to prevent oil from overflowing when you add the turkey.

PREHEAT THE OIL SAFELY:

Heat the oil slowly and maintain a temperature of around 350°F (175°C). Use a reliable thermometer to monitor the oil's temperature.

DRY THE TURKEY THOROUGHLY:

Pat the turkey completely dry with paper towels to reduce the risk of splattering when it's lowered into the hot oil.

USE APPROPRIATE SAFETY GEAR:

Wear safety gear, including heat-resistant gloves, long sleeves, and eye protection to shield against potential oil splatters.

SLOWLY LOWER THE TURKEY:

Lower the turkey into the hot oil slowly and gently to prevent a sudden burst of boiling oil.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE:

Maintain a safe distance from the fryer while the turkey is cooking, and keep children and pets away from the area.

HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER NEARBY:

Keep a fire extinguisher designed for grease fires within easy reach and know how to use it.

STAY VIGILANT:

Never leave the fryer unattended. Keep a close eye on the cooking process, and be ready to respond to any issues.

DON'T OVERCOOK:

Use a meat thermometer to monitor the turkey's internal temperature. The turkey is done when it reaches 165°F (74°C) in the thickest part of the thigh.

BE CAUTIOUS WITH MARINADES:

Be careful when using marinades with a deep-fryer, as the oil can bubble and splatter when the turkey is lowered in. Dry rubs are a safer option.

LET THE TURKEY REST:

Allow the turkey to rest for a few minutes after removing it from the hot oil before carving to let the juices settle.

DISPOSE OF OIL SAFELY:

Allow the oil to cool completely, then strain it and store it in a sealed container for later use or take it to a recycling center. Do not pour hot oil down the drain.

PRACTICE SAFE CLEANUP:

Clean up any spills and dispose of used materials carefully. Store the fryer safely when not in use.

By following these safety tips, you can enjoy a delicious deep-fried turkey without compromising the well-being of yourself, your loved ones, or your RV site.