

> SITE SAFETY

- Ensure caravans and tents are at least 6 metres apart and well away from parked cars. This will help reduce the risk of fire spreading.
- Make sure you know the campsite's fire safety arrangements and check where the nearest telephone is.
- Keep a mobile phone handy for use in emergencies.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING

Heating and cooking appliances can cause CO poisoning if they are poorly installed, incorrectly used, inadequately ventilated, or if they are not properly and regularly maintained.

When fuel does not burn properly, it produces CO gas. CO poisoning kills people. It can also damage your health permanently. The early symptoms of CO poisoning are:

- Tiredness Chest Pains
- Drowsiness Nausea
- Dizziness

MAKE SURE YOU ARE NOT AT RISK FROM CO POISONING:

- Fit a CO detector in your caravan. Ideally, a detector should be installed in all rooms containing a fuel burning appliance or boiler.
- Always keep the caravan well ventilated. Ensure that air vents are clear - if air vents get blocked, it could be fatal.
- Never use fuel-burning devices inside the caravan or tent (e.g. disposable barbeques, camping stoves, camping heaters, lanterns, and charcoal grills).
- Have gas appliances (including the gas supply regulator and hoses) and gas or oil-fired boilers installed and serviced once a year by a Gas Safe engineer.
- Make sure exhaust gases from generators are properly vented away from occupied areas.

> COUNTRYSIDE SAFETY

- Don't discard lit cigarette ends – make sure they are completely extinguished.
- Always follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.
- Before lighting any outdoor fire, check for any restrictions or required permissions.
- Make sure recreational fires are made in a fire-safe pit or container and completely extinguished before leaving.
- Avoid lighting fires when high winds, high temperatures and low humidity are present or predicted.

If you see a fire in the countryside, however small, **CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY.**

Many outdoor fires are started deliberately or are due to careless, reckless or irresponsible behaviour. If you see or suspect someone of acting suspiciously, recklessly or irresponsibly in the countryside contact Police Scotland on 101 or pass information anonymously to Scotland Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

For further FIRE SAFETY information visit www.firescotland.gov.uk or read the following leaflets:

- Your Guide To Fire Safety
- Recipe for Safe Cooking
- Smoking and Alcohol
- Electrical Safety
- Chimney Safety, Stoves & Carbon Monoxide
- Wildfires

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact **0800 0731 999**.

TO BOOK A FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT
Call **0800 0731 999** Text 'FIRE' to **80800**
or visit www.firescotland.gov.uk

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Fact.

On average there are almost 100 caravan fires in Scotland every year. Fire can destroy a tent in less than 60 seconds.



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> CARAVAN SAFETY

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS IN YOUR CARAVAN.

A fire in a caravan or mobile home can spread much more quickly than it would in a house or flat. Take extra care and think about fire safety when you are away from home.

Smoke alarms are just as important for your caravan as for your home. Smoke alarms should be fitted in rooms with electrical appliances or other sources of ignition. If your caravan has cooking facilities, consider fitting a heat alarm too.

If fire breaks out, a smoke or heat alarm will alert you and give you time to react safely and sensibly. If you are sleeping, a working alarm could be your only chance of waking up. Test your alarms weekly and never remove the batteries.

KEY SAFETY TIPS

- If you smoke, use ashtrays. Never smoke in bed. Preferably smoke outside your caravan to avoid the risk of fire. Dispose of cigarette ends carefully.
- If you've been drinking alcohol or taking drugs, don't cook.
- Never walk away while you're cooking and never use a cooker or heater while your caravan is moving.
- Turn off all non-essential electrical appliances before you leave the caravan or go to bed.
- Never overload sockets. Consider using a multi-socket adaptor with surge protection.
- Don't run electrics from one caravan/mobile home to another. This could cause fire or pose a risk from electric shock.
- Never leave children alone inside a caravan/mobile home.
- Don't dry clothes over the stove or heaters.
- Where possible, keep children out of the kitchen area when cooking.
- Keep the area near your caravan clear of litter/rubbish and cut back vegetation to reduce the risk of fire spreading.
- Keep a torch handy for emergencies – never use lighted candles.
- Make sure the door is easy to open from the inside in case of fire, or keep door keys available for use in an emergency.
- Rubbish and refuse should be safely stored, preferably in non-combustible containers, and regularly uplifted.
- If fire does break out, **get out, stay out, dial 999.** Make sure everyone knows how to escape safely from the caravan.

> TENT SAFETY

- Fire can destroy a tent in less than 60 seconds.
- Never use candles in or near a tent - torches are safer.
- Cook a safe distance from the tent walls as they could easily catch fire.
- Never cook inside a small tent.
- Never cook near long grass or flammable materials which can quickly ignite.
- Don't smoke inside tents.
- Make sure you know how to cut your way out of the tent to escape if there is a fire.
- Make sure everyone knows how to put out clothing that's on fire – stop, drop and roll.

> BARBEQUE SAFETY

- Avoid alcohol if you are in charge of a barbeque.
- Keep a bucket of water, sand or a garden hose nearby for emergencies.
- Never take a portable barbeque - or lit charcoal - into an enclosed space like a tent or caravan.
- Never leave a barbeque unattended.
- Make sure your barbeque site is flat and well away from sheds, fences, trees, shrubs or garden waste.
- Keep children and pets away from the cooking area.
- Use enough charcoal to cover the base of the barbeque, but not more (normally around 5cms or 2 inches).
- Do not dispose of ashes from camp fires or barbeques until they are cold to the touch.
- Hot ashes can melt a plastic wheelie bin and can also cause a fire.
- After cooking, make sure the barbeque is cool before moving it.
- Never use petrol or paraffin to light your barbeque; use only recognised lighters or starter fuels on cold coals.

> USING GAS?

GAS CYLINDERS

- Gas cylinders should be kept outside. Never store petrol, diesel or gas containers under your caravan or inside your home.
- Gas cylinders should be turned off unless they are designed to run continuously and you should only change the bottle when they are completely empty, carefully following the gas suppliers' instructions.
- Never change camping gas cartridges indoor or near ignition sources.
- If you suspect that there is a gas leak, turn off all appliances and the main cylinder valve, open all doors and windows and do not smoke or turn on any electrical switches or appliances until you have been given the all clear.

GAS BARBEQUES

- Take care when turning bottled gas barbeques on and off.
- Make sure the tap is turned off before changing the gas cylinder.
- After cooking, turn the gas supply off first and then the barbeque control. This will stop any gas from leaking.
- Make sure all joints are safely and securely tightened.
- Change gas cylinders outdoors or in a well ventilated area.

