

Caravan and Camping fire safety checklist

Caravan Fire Safety Tips

- Ensure your caravan is fitted with a working smoke alarm, fire blanket and portable dry powder fire extinguisher. The fire blanket and fire extinguisher should be easy to access and stored near an exit.
- Properly extinguish cigarette butts and ash. Never smoke in bed.
- Establish a fire escape plan and ensure nothing blocks it.
- Turn off pilot lights before towing your caravan or when the towing vehicle's engine is running.
- Caravan gas cylinders should be external and secure, and valves should face away from the van. Regularly check that gas pipes and connectors are in good working order, particularly after driving on country roads.
- When cooking, never leave kitchen appliances unattended.

Camping fire safety tips

- Check the weather conditions in your camping area and observe fire danger ratings and fire bans. Do not light a fire on dry, windy days.
- Choose a campsite that is clear of flammable vegetation such as long grass and spinifex.
- Locate campfires downwind and at least three metres from tents, the car and any fuel source, including vegetation, branches, gas cylinders and fuel cans.
- Where possible, use a built fireplace. Create a border around your fire with large rocks.
- Only light a campfire if it is permitted by the campsite and park. Many national parks do not allow fires.
- Use a flame-retardant tent. Never cook or smoke in a tent.
- Never go to bed or leave a campsite if an open flame is still burning. If in doubt, douse the fire and hot coals with water. Turn off lanterns and stoves before leaving or going to bed.
- Ensure children are properly supervised around campfires. Never leave a child alone near a campfire and don't allow children to throw anything on the fire, including sticks and rubbish.
- When using a portable gas barbeque, do not turn the gas on until you are ready to use the appliance. Close the cylinder valve when the barbeque is not in use.

General tips for holiday makers

- Observe fire restrictions and fire bans issued by the fire department. Bring a portable radio with you if you won't have internet or phone reception.
- Familiarise yourself with evacuation routes and meeting points at camping grounds and caravan parks.
- Ensure all electrical and gas equipment, including barbeques and stoves are tested and in good working order.

For more information contact a 133 166 or visit www.wormald.com.au or www.exelgard.com.au