### **Site Safety**

#### Never:

- X Store fuel under caravans.
- X Allow rubbish to build up in or around caravans.

#### Make sure to:

- Leave a gap of about 6 metres between caravans where there is no solid "Firebreak" (e.g. brick wall) to prevent a fire from spreading.
- Park cars well clear of caravans.
- Leave access roads clear for the emergency services.
- Store empty gas cylinders in a suitable storage away from caravans and vehicles.
- Find out what facilities are available on site for Fire
  Fighting and how they work.

#### FACTS!

- On average <u>46</u> people <u>DIE</u> each year in fires in this country.
- Fires do not always happen to other people.
- The next fire could be in your caravan.

## **General Safety Points**

#### Make sure to:

- Keep the caravan ventilated and don't block up air vents - it could be fatal.
- Keep a fire extinguisher inside the caravan, by the door.
- Have a proper First Aid Kit in the caravan.

### **Remember:**

Be careful when using portable electric / gas / oil heaters.

- Always use a sparkguard with these heaters.
- Do not use them near furniture, curtains, etc. and ensure that they cannot be knocked over.
- Take <u>extreme</u> care if using heaters to dry clothes.
- **Never** leave them on when going to bed.
- Take care if pets are near the heaters.





Custom House, Dublin 1, Ireland telephone:+353 1 8882381 facsimile: +353 1 8882645 www.environ.ie firesafety@environ.ie

# Fire Safety in Caravans





The leaflet "**Fire Safety in the Home**" covers the main points on Fire Safety in your home. This leaflet specifically deals with Fire Safety in Caravans and on Caravan Sites.

## **Prevention**

#### Never:

- ✗ Use petrol or paraffin when lighting a solid fuel stove.
- Leave burning candles unattended and always use a proper candleholder.
- **X** Leave young children unattended.
- ✗ Leave matches and lighters where children can get them.
- X Smoke when in bed, tired or on medication.
- Leave chip pans, frying pans, etc unattended even for a minute.
- Overload electric sockets (one plug one socket!).
- X Use faulty electrical appliances.
- Run electrical appliances from an electric light socket.

#### Make sure to:

- Have your chimney cleaned at least once a year or heating system serviced regularly.
- Have your gas cylinder outside, on solid ground and away from any heat sources.
- Keep ashtrays empty when not in use.
- Have a suitable fire extinguisher and fire blanket near the main door.
- Carry out a routine fire safety check before going to bed.
- Unplug all unnecessary electrical appliances at night.
- Close all doors at night.

## Detection

Smoke Alarms are designed to give you an early warning of a fire. 82% of fires resulting in fatalities had no working smoke alarm.

### Make sure to:

- Have at <u>least</u> one Smoke Alarm fitted.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a week.
- Change the batteries every year.
- Change the battery immediately when the warning beep sounds.

### **Evacuation plan**

When a Smoke Alarm alerts you about a fire in your home, you should have an "Evacuation Plan" so you and your family can escape safely.

### Make sure to:

- Plan an evacuation drill with all of your family and practice it regularly.
- Where possible have an alternative exit in case your primary exit is blocked by fire.
- Have a meeting point in a safe place outside of the caravan.
- Ensure all escape routes are kept clear <u>day</u> and <u>night</u>.

- Keep keys to doors and windows easily and immediately available.
- Know where the nearest phone is to contact the emergency services.

### Calling the Emergency Services

#### Dial 999 or 112

- ✓ Tell the operator what service you require.
- Speak calmly and clearly giving the address of the fire and your phone number. (If using a mobile phone the operator may ask what county you are in).
- Only hang up when the operator tells you to.