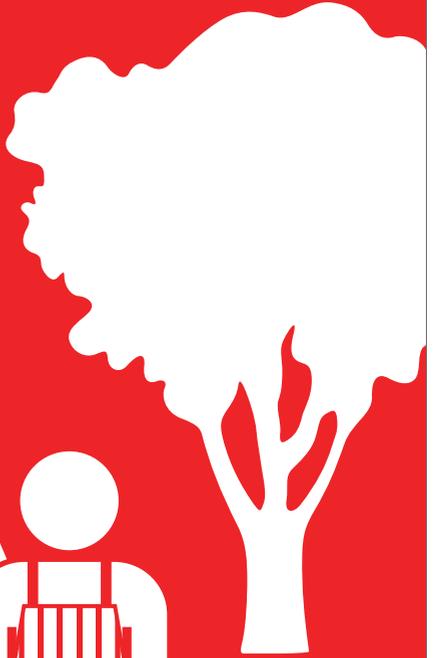
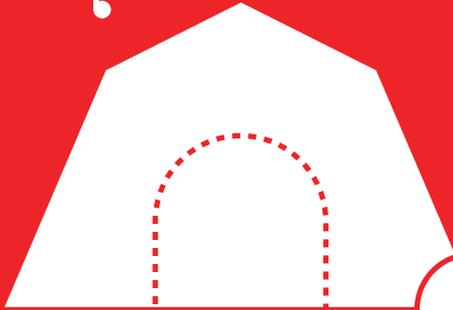


# FIRE SAFETY OUTDOORS



**FIRE  
KILLS**

**YOU CAN  
PREVENT**

## Did you know?

- A fire can destroy a tent in less than 60 seconds.
- In England, on average 49,000 fires are started on grass and heathland every year over the last decade. This is an average of 134 fires every day!
- On average 500 fires per year occur in caravans.

Fire safety doesn't stop when you leave the house. This leaflet will help to keep you safe whilst enjoying the outdoors.



# Countryside safety

**Avoid open fires in the countryside. Always have them in safe, designated areas.**

- Put out cigarettes and other smoking materials properly before you leave your vehicle.
  - Don't leave bottles or glass in woodlands. Sunlight shining through glass can start a fire. Take them home or put them in a waste or recycling bin.
  - If you see a fire in the countryside, report it immediately.
- Don't attempt to tackle fires that can't be put out with a bucket of water – leave the area as soon as possible.
  - Never throw cigarette ends out of car windows – they could start a fire and ruin surrounding countryside.

The Countryside Code contains further advice. For more information visit [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk).



**Avoid open fires  
in the countryside**

# Barbecue safety

**Keep a bucket of water, sand or a garden hose nearby for emergencies.**

- Follow the safety instructions provided with disposable barbecues. Never use a barbecue indoors.
- Never leave a barbecue unattended.
- Make sure your barbecue is well away from sheds, fences, trees, shrubs or garden waste.
- Use enough charcoal to cover the base of the barbecue, but not more (normally around 5cms or 2 inches).
- Keep children, pets and garden games away from the cooking area.
- After cooking, make sure the barbecue is cool before moving it.
- Empty ashes onto bare garden soil, not into dustbins or wheelie bins. If they're hot, they can melt the plastic and cause a fire.
- Enjoy yourself, but don't drink too much alcohol if you are in charge of the barbecue.

**Never use petrol or paraffin to start or revive your barbecue; use only recognised lighters or starter fuels on cold coals.**

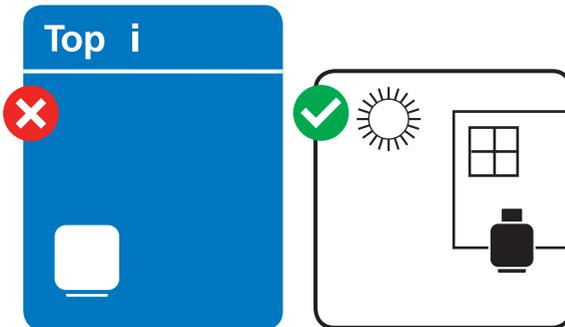


**Always keep water nearby**

## Gas barbecues

**Never store gas cylinders under the stairs – if there is a fire they might explode and block your escape route.**

- Store gas cylinders outside, away from direct sunlight and frost.
- Take care when turning bottled gas barbecues 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 barbecue control. This will stop any gas from leaking.
- If you suspect a leak, turn off the gas cylinder and try brushing soapy water around all joints, watching for bubbles.
- Make sure all joints are tightened, safe and secure.
- Change gas cylinders outdoors or in a well ventilated area.



**Never store  
gas cylinders  
under the stairs**

# Camping and caravanning safety

**Ensure caravans and tents are at least six metres apart and away from parked cars, to reduce the risk of fire spreading.**

- Keep a torch handy for emergencies – never use lighted candles.
- Make sure you know the campsite's fire safety arrangements and check where the nearest telephone is.

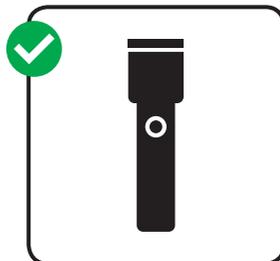
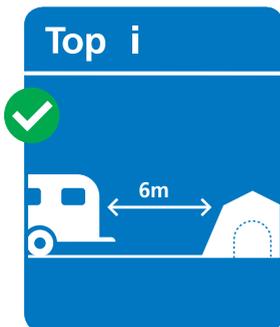
## Using gas cylinders

- Don't use petrol or paraffin to light a solid fuel stove.
- Keep flammable liquids (such as petrol and gas cylinders) outside and away from children.

- Only change gas cylinders when they're completely empty and store them away from caravans and vehicles.
- Make sure the gas pipe connection is secure. If you suspect a leak, turn off the main cylinder valve.

## What to do if there is a fire

- Keep calm and get everyone out as quickly as you can.
- Call the fire and rescue service and give the exact location. Give a map reference if possible, or give a landmark such as a farm or pub.



**Keep 6 metres apart**

## Staying in a tent

**Never use candles in or near a tent – torches are safer.**

- Keep cooking appliances away from the tent walls as they could easily set alight.
- Never cook inside a small tent.
- Don't cook near flammable materials or long grass, they can set alight easily.
- Make sure you know how to escape by cutting your way out of the tent if there is a fire.
- Make sure everyone knows how to put out clothing that's on fire – stop, drop and roll.
- Don't smoke inside tents.

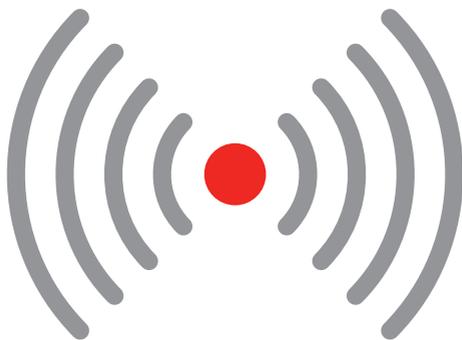


**Never use  
candles in tents**

## Staying in a caravan

- Fit and test a smoke alarm in your caravan – optical alarms are usually most effective.
- Take special care when cooking – don't leave pans unattended.
- Turn off all appliances before you go out or to bed.
- Make sure ashtrays are made of a material that can't burn – and never smoke in bed.
- Don't dry clothes over the stove.
- Remove any litter and rubbish near the caravan to reduce the risk of fire spreading.
- Make sure the caravan is ventilated, and never block air vents, to avoid a build up of poisonous gases.

**Consider keeping a fire extinguisher by the entrance, but always read the instructions before using it.**



**SMOKE ALARMS**

**SAVE  
LIVES**

To find out more about the Countryside Code, visit  
**[www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)**

For more information on general fire safety visit  
**[www.facebook.com/firekills](https://www.facebook.com/firekills)**

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