



**Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service**

Protecting Our Community

COMMUNITY INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 34

CAMPING SAFETY

Camping is a fantastic way to enjoy the great outdoors. Following some simple safety advice will ensure your camping holiday goes smoothly and make it a memorable experience.



- Allow at least 6m spacing between tents;
- Know the fire safety arrangements for the campsite; know the location of the portable firefighting equipment and nearest telephone;
- Cook outside and away from the tent; keep flammable material away from the cooking area; make sure cooking appliances are stable and cannot be knocked over easily;
- Never use candles inside or near a tent; torches are much safer;
- Don't smoke inside a tent; and
- All flammable liquids and gas cylinders should be kept outside the tent.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is known as the silent killer because you can't see it, smell it or taste it. CO gas can build up quickly and can kill with no warning. Therefore, you should be CO aware when camping.

- Never use fuel-burning devices such as disposable barbeques, camping stoves, camping heaters, lanterns etc inside a tent;
- Disposable barbeques and smouldering charcoals can produce CO for hours after you have used them;
- Keep any fuel cooking appliances down wind and well clear of tents to ensure fumes don't build up in nearby tents; and
- Remember a vehicle engine or generator exhaust gases also contain high levels of CO.

Dry ground and vegetation in the summer means there is an added risk of a fire starting. Follow these tips to reduce the chance of a wildfire in the countryside.

- Only use barbeques in a suitable area and never leave them unattended;
- Dispose of cigarette butts safely; ensure they are completely extinguished before placing in a waste bin;
- Open fires can be dangerous; keep a bucket of water or sand and a shovel close by;
- Don't leave glass bottles in woodland – sunlight shining through the glass can start a fire; and
- If you see a fire in the countryside, call the Fire & Rescue Service immediately.

For further information phone NIFRS HQ 028 9266 4221 or visit www.nifrs.org   #STOPfire