

CFS FACT SHEET

Caravan & Camping Bushfire Safety

If travelling during the bushfire season, you could be affected by a fire. Bushfires can start suddenly and spread quickly - without warning.

Before setting off on your caravan or camping trip make sure you have all the information you will need to keep safe



CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

- Fire Danger Ratings and bushfire information on the CFS Website, Bushfire Information Hotline (1300 362 361), CFSFire App, Facebook or Twitter
- Weather conditions on the Bureau of Meteorology website
- Where the local Bushfire Safer Places are close to your travel route and destinations
- Emergency Survival kit is packed, including a working battery operated radio
- Protective clothing, woollen blankets and water are packed
- Caravan has a smoke alarm, fire extinguisher and fire blanket
- Electrical and gas equipment is secure, appropriately fitted, in good working order, and turned off while travelling

ON THE ROAD

- Always carry maps and know where you are
- Be prepared to change your travel plans on hot windy days
- On Fire Danger days avoid visiting high bushfire risk areas. Some parks and attractions may be closed due to bushfire risk
- Watch out for smoke while you are travelling and listen to local radio
- If you do see smoke or flames, drive away from the fire and ring 000
- If its smoky, slow down, turn on your headlights and watch out for people, animals and other vehicles

On Total Fire Ban Days, don't travel through remote or isolated areas

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AT YOUR CAMPSITE

- Plan good access and escape routes
- Find a flat site with a cleared area that is not on a hilltop
- Identify your nearest safer location to go to in case of a fire
- Avoid driving over long grass as hot exhaust pipes can ignite grass
- Familiarise yourself with parks fire safety plans and the location of fire-fighting equipment if available
- Monitor local conditions. Watch for signs of smoke and ACT EARLY

SAFETY WHILE CAMPING

- Don't cook or smoke in tents and use electric or battery operated lights
- Caravans must be well-vented before using gas
- On Total Fire Ban days you must not use a portable barbeque. Stoves can be used inside caravans
- Turn off lanterns and extinguish fires and candles before bed



IF YOU ARE CAUGHT IN A FIRE CALL 000

- Unhitch the caravan if you are driving and if there is time
- Park off the road in a clear area away from trees, scrub and tall grass
- Face the front of your car towards the fire and Turn off the engine and turn on headlights and hazard lights
- Stay in the car below the windows to protect yourself from radiant heat
- Close windows and air vents and cover yourself with a woollen blanket
- Cover your mouth with a cloth and drink plenty of water. Stay down until the sound of the fire has passed, carefully leave the car (it will be hot)

