



# STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

South Wales  
Fire and Rescue Service



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub  
De Cymru

GWASANAETH TÂN AC ACHUB  
Canolbarth a Goglewin Cymru  
Mid and West Wales  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub  
Fire and Rescue Service

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER WALES

## Want to know how to keep safe this summer?

We want everyone to have an enjoyable summer - but a safe one too.

Summertime carries with it a real set of dangers if you do not follow practical and correct fire and road safety advice appropriate for this time of year.

A few simple precautions and a little extra care could keep you and your family safe and help prevent most fire and road dangers.

**This leaflet provides some simple advice on how to achieve this while you and your family have fun this Summer.**



## Fire safety in the countryside

During the summer, grass and mountains can become very dry, which means if you deliberately or accidentally start a fire outdoors it will spread very quickly, destroying everything in its path.

- Extinguish cigarettes and other smoking materials properly.
- Only use barbeques in suitable and safe areas, never leave them unattended and always extinguish properly.
- Never start open fires in the countryside.

### Top tip



**Never start  
open fires in the  
countryside**

## Camping and caravanning

- Make sure tents or caravans are kept a safe and appropriate distance apart - as recommended by your campsite.
- Find out what the firefighting arrangements are on the campsite and where the nearest telephone is.
- Keep a torch handy for emergencies. Do not use a candle.
- Fit an optical smoke alarm into your caravan.
- Do not leave children alone in a caravan.

**Never overload plug sockets - Residual Current Device (RCD) are recommended - and always ensure you fully unwind coiled extension cables.**

### **If there is a fire:**

- Get everyone out straight away. Fires in tents and caravans spread very quickly.
- Call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service.
- Give a map reference, if possible. Otherwise give a landmark such as a farm or pub to help the Fire and Rescue Service locate you.

### **Top tip**



**Make sure tents or caravans are kept a safe and appropriate distance apart**

## Tents

- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Keep flammable liquids and gas cylinders away from tents.
- Do not cook inside your tent.
- Be prepared to cut your way out of your tent in the event of a fire.
- If your clothing catches fire, **STOP, DROP AND ROLL.**
- Never use candles in or near a tent. Torches are much safer.
- Oil burning appliances should not be used in or around tents.
- Cooking appliances should not be used in small tents.
- Do not smoke inside tents.

### Top tip



**Never use  
candles in tents**



**STOP!**



**DROP!**



**ROLL!**

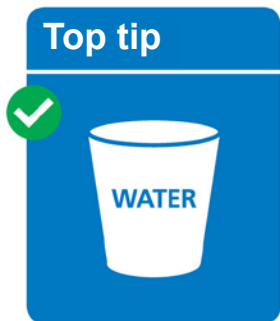
# Barbeques

## Charcoal barbeques

- Make sure that your barbeque is in good working order.
- Keep a bucket of water, a bucket of sand or a garden hose nearby in case of emergencies.
- Make sure that your barbeque site is flat and well away from buildings, fences, trees and shrubs.
- Use only enough charcoal to cover the base of the barbeque to a depth of about 50mm (two inches).
- Keep children, garden games and pets well away from the cooking area.
- Do not drink and cook.
- When you've finished cooking, make sure the barbeque is cold before trying to move it. Empty ashes onto bare garden soil.
- Never leave the barbeque unattended.
- Never put ashes straight into a dustbin or wheelie bin. If they're hot, they can melt the plastic and cause a fire.

## Gas barbeques

- Make sure the tap is turned off before changing the gas cylinder.
- Change gas cylinders in the open air if possible or open doors and windows to provide good ventilation.



**Always keep  
water nearby**



- When you've finished cooking, turn off the gas cylinder before you turn off the barbeque controls, to ensure any gas in the pipeline is used up.
- Only use barbeques and open fires outdoors.

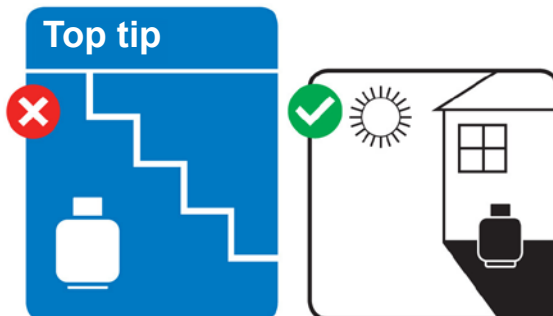
### Storing of gas cylinders

- Store gas cylinders in good, safe conditions.
- Keep gas cylinders away from frost and direct sunlight.
- Never store gas cylinders under the stairs of your home - if you are upstairs this is your means of escape from a fire.
- Do not keep gas cylinders that you do not need. Return all empty cylinders to where you bought them.

### Remember

Never put a barbeque (gas barbeque, charcoal barbeque or a disposable barbeque) in your tent, caravan or awning - even a cooling one. Not only is it a fire risk, but barbeques also produce carbon monoxide.

Carbon Monoxide is a colourless, odourless and potentially lethal gas. You may think it's safe once the flames have died down BUT more carbon monoxide is given off from a cooling barbeque than a hot one.



**Never store gas cylinders under the stairs**

## Flying off to the sun

Take these few simple steps before leaving home to reduce the risk of coming home to a real fire!

- Switch off and unplug electrical equipment.
- Turn water off at the mains to prevent possible leaks coming into contact with electrical wiring and causing a fire.
- Let a neighbour know you are going away and give them a key for emergencies.
- Close all doors and windows as this will slow down the progress of a fire.



**Close all doors and windows**



**Switch off and unplug electrical equipment**



**Give a neighbour a key for emergencies**



# Sky (Chinese) lanterns

We do not recommend the use of Sky lanterns. They are a fire risk to property, crops, vehicles and livestock and can harm the environment. However, if you do intend to use a lantern please consider the following advice.

## Do:

- Make sure the launch area is kept clear of flammable materials.
- Launch lanterns away from obstacles such as trees, electricity and telephone power lines or buildings.
- Check wind direction and speed before launch.

## Don't:

- Never use a damaged lantern.
- Never release lanterns in urban areas.
- Never release lanterns in areas containing animals or growing crops.
- Never launch a lantern near a road or public highway, especially major roads and motorways.
- Never launch a lantern if the wind is stronger than a light summer breeze.

### Top tip



**Never launch lanterns near trees or power lines**

### Top tip



**Check wind direction and speed before launch**

## Road Safety

It is often easy to get complacent about the dangers on the road during long summer days and evenings. However, not wearing your seatbelt or having 'just one drink' can still do just as much harm in the Summer as it can throughout the rest of the year.

During the Summer you need to be mindful of road safety, particularly if you have your family in the car with you. Remember to slow down, avoid overtaking and don't drink and drive.

Switch off your mobile phone whilst driving and ensure your children are wearing seatbelts and in child seats if they are small.



**do not  
overtake  
unnecessarily**



**Switch off  
your mobile**