



CaSSOA
THE CARAVAN STORAGE
SITE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 was introduced in October 2006, and the order applies to caravan storage sites. Here is a brief overview of what storage site owners need to do in order to comply:

- **Identify Fire Hazards**
- **Identify People at risk**
- **Evaluate, remove or reduce, and protect from risk**
- **Record, plan, inform, instruct, and train**
- **Review**

It is recommended that the caravans are parked at 3.5m apart —that is the distance between the fronts of the draw bars of two side by side caravans. The individual bays should be 8m long with 8m wide roadways. Where caravans are parked back to back there should be a 1m wide corridor between the rows to act as a firebreak. The recommended 8m wide roadways will allow access for emergency vehicles.

The removal of Gas Bottles is a complex area following the introduction of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Wherever possible the respective owners should remove the gas bottles from the caravans. If it is not **reasonably practicable** to remove the Gas Bottles they should be turned off, and disconnected from the internal appliances. The onus of showing that it is not **reasonably practicable** to remove the Gas Bottles lies on the proprietor who will be identified as the responsible person.

A caravan fire is Class “A” and an essential issue in fire protection is to ensure the correct equipment is used, for both prevention and firefighting.

For example where free burning combustible material is stored near the storage area then a hose reel is the most effective method of tackling a blaze.

All fire protection equipment should be:

- Serviced and maintained in good working order;
- Protected from adverse weather conditions;
- Recharged as per the manufacturer’s specification
- Where a site is surrounded by undergrowth, periodic checks should be made to ensure that it does not encroach into the storage area. Under no circumstances should undergrowth be burnt back.

All fire points should be readily identifiable as such by the use of both words and a pictogram.

Members are reminded of their responsibilities and urged to review their fire risk assessments regularly. Please note that this information is simply a guide. Should you need further information please contact CaSSOA.

Ted Young—Brand Ambassador

