Carbon monoxide can kill

Never use a fuel-burning appliance inside your tent or awning. Even a warm barbecue can be lethal.

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We hope your stay with us will be fun and relaxing, but we are also aware that you may be cooking, heating and lighting your tent, awning, motorhome or caravan with equipment you may not use at home.

This leaflet aims to raise the awareness of some of the dangers of portable gas, charcoal, petrol and other liquid fuel appliances on site.

Never take a barbecue into a tent, awning, caravan or motorhome. A warm, smouldering barbecue gives off plenty of poisonous carbon monoxide (CO), which can kill.

Never use a fuel-burning appliance to heat your tent or awning. Gas and kerosene heaters – unless they are permanently fitted in a caravan or motorhome – should only be used outside. Stoves and barbecues are designed for cooking not space heating.

Never run a gas-, petrol- or diesel-powered generator inside a tent or awning.

Don't cook inside your tent or awning, unless there's an area specifically designed for this purpose and you're sure there is adequate ventilation. To work safely equipment such as gas, meths and petrol stoves need more ventilation than your tent or awning is designed to provide and there's also the risk of fire.

Don't use any other gas, charcoal or liquid fuel appliances inside a tent or awning. Gas-powered fridges and lamps, for example, also need plenty of ventilation to prevent them producing poisonous carbon monoxide. Tents and awnings aren't generally designed with this in mind.

Don't rely on a carbon monoxide (CO) detector to keep you safe in a tent or awning. They may be useful at home, in a caravan or in a motorhome, but they are not designed for the conditions found in a tent or awning.

Spotting carbon monoxide poisoning

You cannot smell, taste or detect carbon monoxide but it can kill quickly and without warning. In smaller concentrations carbon monoxide poisoning can give symptoms similar to flu or food poisoning. Look out for headaches, nausea and vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness and weakness. But the best advice is to avoid any chance of being poisoned in the first place.

For more information

Go online to **nhs.uk/carbonmonoxide** or **carbonmonoxidekills.org.uk**

The Camping and Caravanning Club
The Friendly Club

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