There are some rules that you may not be aware of relating to caravans in the Northern Territory. For example a smoke alarm must be installed on the ceiling of caravans. For further information go to www.fire.nt.gov.au and click on Territory Laws on Smoke Alarms.

The Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service recommend a simple safety check before you begin your travel to assist you to have a safer holiday.

When planning to use a caravan check for gas leaks using soapy water and always ensure that you turn off any pilot lights before towing or when the towing vehicle engine is running.

Check your smoke alarm is in good working order and consider having a fire extinguisher and fire blanket near the exit. Check expiry dates on your extinguisher. Develop a fire escape plan that considers all occupants of a caravan and; at camp sites and caravan parks, familiarise yourself with any fire routines in place or equipment installed there.

Ensure that all electrical and gas equipment fitted is tested and in good working order. Gas cylinders on caravans should be external, secure and with valves facing away from the van. Check gas connections after driving on country roads. Remember that LPG is flammable, heavier than air and may remain or collect in low lying areas for some time.

Do not park your car or tow vehicle in areas of high fuel load like long dry grass.

Keep heaters away from the internal fitting in caravans. Have a portable radio to keep updated regarding weather conditions and fire restrictions that may be in force.

Never leave children or pets unattended in a caravan or tent. Never cook or smoke in tents and consider buying a flame retardant tent.

Locate campfires downwind and a safe distance from any tents. DO NOT use fuel of any type to start or promote a campfire. Turn off any lanterns and extinguish campfires before going to bed.

Never leave cooking unattended in caravans or campsites and always secure any matches and lighters. On arrival at a campsite locate a safe refuge place in case of bushfire.

On arrival at a Territory Caravan Park ask the Park Manager for a copy of the Emergency Management Plan and know where your nearest Fire Hose Reel is located.

Make sure you are no closer than 3 metres to any other van including annex. Know your way out of the caravan park in case of an emergency.

Call 000 in an Emergency