

Media Release

27 December 2017

Have a plumber check your caravan before the holidays

The summer holidays are here, so it is time for those planning time away in their caravan, campervan or camper trailer to check that it is safe and ready to use.

Vehicles that have been sitting unused for a while need more than just a good vacuuming before hitting the road: in addition to a vehicle safety check, it is good practice to have the LPG systems, appliances and plumbing checked by an appropriately licensed or registered plumbing practitioner.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA), which regulates the plumbing and building industries, advises owners of caravans, campervans and camper trailers (collectively referred to in the *Plumbing Regulations 2008* as caravans) to have gas connections and plumbing thoroughly checked.

While plumbing work in Victoria can only be done by a registered or licensed plumber, owners can do certain things in relation their caravan's LPG systems as they check and prepare them for use, including:

- Check connections at the appliances, regulators, hoses and cylinders for leaks with soapy water
- Ensure all piping, including flexible hose assemblies, is in good working order and not damaged
- Ensure all warning labels are legible
- Ensure all vents are clear, open and unrestricted so adequate air supply is available inside – there should be at least two ventilation openings.

A compliance certificate must be provided for plumbing work on caravans, either at completion of the manufacturing process in the factory or after repairs or alterations. If dealing with the plumber directly, owners must receive a compliance certificate within five days of the plumbing work being completed. For new caravans, the plumber will provide a copy of the compliance certificate to the manufacturer who must provide a copy to the owner.

For further information on caravan gas safety and plumbing or to find a registered or licensed plumber, visit the [VBA website](http://www.vba.vic.gov.au) (www.vba.vic.gov.au). Visit the [ESV website](http://www.esv.vic.gov.au) (www.esv.vic.gov.au) for information on all gas safety.

ENDS

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