Can I? Can’t I?

Generators

**Generators can provide a reliable source of power to your camping setup however care needs to be taken for their use in forests and parks.**

# Could your generator spark a bushfire?

**Yes.**

Generators produce heat and sparks. Any equipment that does this is a fire hazard and must be used with extreme care, especially in forests and parks.

## Before you leave home

Check whether your generator is in safe working order and the exhaust pipe is fitted with a working spark arrestor (e.g. has wire mesh inside the muffler). If you’re not sure, you can ask the store where you bought it or the supplier.

If planning to use a generator, legally\* you must pack:

* A water spray pump that is filled with at least 9 litres of water

OR

* A water (stored pressure) fire extinguisher

In all cases, make sure your generator, spark arrestor, water spray pump and fire extinguisher are working and have been purchased from reputable local retailers to make sure they comply with Australian safety requirements.

## Using your generator

Generators can be noisy; please be considerate of other visitors and nearby wildlife.

To legally\* operate a generator, you must:

* Keep 1.5 metres of cleared space around it and ensure it’s away from any flammable materials such as tents or overhanging branches.

Have your water spray pump or fire extinguisher available to immediately put out any fire.

Other tips:

* Position your generator closer to you than to other campers
* Ensure cords do not cross areas used by other visitors

If possible, only run your generator when you’re at your campsite

## Other Options

Generator noise can disturb other people’s enjoyment of the area and disturb native wildlife, so think about using alternatives. Solar panels and inverters (which can be coupled with batteries) are the best ways to provide power for your must-have devices when camping and can be used anywhere.

\*Under the *Forests (Fire Protection) Regulations 2025*

**To report suspicious or illegal activity call DEECA on 136 186**

**To contact Parks Victoria, call 131 963**

[**vic.gov.au/camping**](http://vic.gov.au/camping)

# Publication information

## Acknowledgements

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria’s land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

DEECA is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria’s Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

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