# Safety In The Mobile Home

When considering the purchase of a mobile home. safety should be a prime concern. Mobile homes are required by law to conform to federal standards. However, the Better Business Bureau cautions consumers to be responsible buyers by thoroughly investigating before making their purchase to help ensure years of safe and comfortable living.

### **Federal Standards**

All mobile homes built for sale in the United States after June 15, 1979 must conform to the National Standard for Mobile Homes established by theU.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This federal standard covers nine basic parts of home construction: planning considerations (including ceiling heights, light ventilation and exit facilities); fire safety (for example, smoke detection systems); body and frame testing (such as structural load tests and test procedures for roof trusses); thermal protection; plumbing systems; heating, cooling and fuel burning systems; electrical systems; and transportation (covering such areas as design of the house to withstand rigors of highway

## consumer tips

If the home is built according to this standard. the following displayed items will assure the buyer that it is built as specified: 1( A seal affixed to the house specifying that the manufacturer has built in compliance with the HUD standard; 2( A diagram provided by the manufacturer showing the required number and positon of placement piers as well as the positioning for anchoring devices; 3( A certificate posted inside the home attesting to the performance levels that can be expected from the heating system within a specified range of outside temperature and wind velocity; and 4( Maps indicating the zone (North, Middle, or Hurricane) for which the home has been built, and specifying the degree of severe weather the roof can be expected to withstand, provided the home has been properly anchored in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

covered by the standards. with the unit's specifications. These will explain the construction of the morier, insulation, heat ducts, etc. The more known about a unit, the better.



EXCITING! START TODAY! PICK UP YOUR GAME TICKET AND



9 PRIZE LEVELS WIN 100 \$100 WIN \$200 WIN NIN \$2002 \$20

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## **One Step Further**

Do not automatically consider a unit to be satisfactory because it conforms to the federal standard. Go one step further and inspect the home. Ask questions about the areas Ask to see the manufacturer's printed literature bile home, i.e. vapor bar-

Important safety features to check for in a home involve precautions against fire and wind damage and include: two doors to the outside easily opened from the inside and located far enough apart so that at least one will provide exit in case of fire; "kickout" windows in each bedroom that. are large enough to allow



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