

## Domestic Waste and Garden waste -

# Don't Burn it!

Garden fires can result in criminal prosecutions and substantial fines. They cause air pollution, can be a health hazard, and are bad for the environment.

Burning waste produces smoke that contains a wide range of pollutants. By burning plastics, rubber or painted materials, not only are bad smells produced but a wide range of poisonous compounds.

This smoke can damage your health as well as the health of your neighbours and can cause breathing difficulties. It is also likely to be a

nuisance to them as well, and will prevent them from opening their windows, enjoying sitting out in their gardens and hanging out washing. It also increases the background levels of air pollution.

Would you risk a criminal prosecution and a fine of £5,000 just for having a garden fire ?

**BURNING YOUR DOMESTIC OR GARDEN WASTE IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE WAY OF GETTING RID OF IT.**

Blackpool Council will arrange to remove all your excess household waste at reasonable cost.

**Please contact NEAT on (01253) 477477 to arrange this service**



To ensure our services are accessible to all, documents prepared by Blackpool Council are available in large print, Braille, on audio-cassette or computer disk upon request.

We can also provide help for British Sign Language users and provide information in other languages.

Please ask for details or telephone 477477.

For further information on smoke nuisance and the law contact the Environmental Protection Section on (01253) 477477  
Or e-mail the team on [environmental.protection@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.protection@blackpool.gov.uk)

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# Please do not get rid of household or garden waste by burning it.

## What can Blackpool Council do?

Blackpool Council has a duty to carry out an investigation into complaints of smoke nuisance, and this can lead to a Nuisance Abatement Notice being served on the perpetrator.

Failure to comply with this notice could result in prosecution in the Magistrates' Court and a fine of up to £50,000. (Environmental Protection Act 1990—Statutory Nuisance)

## What can the Fire Service do?

If the Fire Service are called to attend they will extinguish the fire. Such an attendance is likely to be deemed as a nuisance or non emergency call out which will have caused a vital rescue appliance to be inappropriately utilised, and as a result the costs to turn out may be recharged to you ! The Fire Service will also record the incident and pass your details to the Environmental Protection Section of the Council.

## What can your neighbours do?

A neighbour can make a complaint to the Environmental Protection Section of the Council regarding smoke from fires and the complaint would then be investigated under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Your neighbours could also take their own action on persistent burning through the Courts, details of which can be obtained from the Council's Environmental Protection Section.

## What can the Police do ?

The Police can fine anyone who has a fire and allows the smoke to drift across roads endangering traffic (Highways (Amendment) Act 1986). In this instance please contact the Police direct.

## What's the alternatives?

### Don't dump your waste.

Fly-tipping your rubbish (dumping) is illegal and you can be fined up to £50,000.

Don't put garden / DIY waste in your grey lidded wheelie bin.

This type of waste should be recycled in the appropriate wheelie bin or taken to the nearest Household Recycling Centre ('tip').

### Please do Recycle it.

The Council now has recycling facilities at all it's household waste centres and there are recycling facilities at most major supermarkets.

### Use the 'Tip' or hire a skip.

Take your waste to the nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre or look in yellow pages to locate a skip hire company. Ideally the skip should be located off the highway.

### Compost it.

Most garden and kitchen waste, including cardboard and paper can be recycled into compost in a plastic compost bin.