

Check before you light...

Remember, heaps of garden refuse provide a haven for small animals such as hedgehogs.

Take care to keep children away from a bonfire. Supervise burning as much as possible.

Garden waste can be taken to one of the household waste recycling centres which are located at:

**Bar End Road, Winchester;
Claylands Road, Bishops Waltham;
Prospect Road, New Alresford.**

Opening hours

WINTER
(November-March):
8.00am - 4.30pm

SUMMER
(April-October):
8.00am - 7.00pm

If you would like to know more about composting please consult our leaflet Guide to Waste Minimisation and Home Composting.

Further Information

If you require any further advice or information - please do not hesitate to contact us.



By Post

Environment Division
Communities Directorate
Winchester City Council
City Offices
Colebrook Street
Winchester SO23 9LJ



By Telephone

01962 840 222



By Fax

01962 840 586



By E Mail

environment@winchester.gov.uk



Or visit our Website

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk>

If you know someone who would like this information in another format, please telephone: 01962 848 367

Telephone calls may be recorded



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Bonfires

What is the Legal Position?

The Law

Under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, smoke caused by bonfires may be a statutory nuisance and the City Council has powers to take action against those who create a nuisance or allow it to happen. Private individuals are also able to take their own action by complaint to a magistrates' court.

Bonfires which are on land near to roads and causing an inconvenience or a danger to passers-by can also be an offence under the Highways Act 1980.



What You Should Do

If you have a complaint, it is best to discuss it initially with the person responsible, they may not realise that they are causing a problem. Try to be reasonable, otherwise your discussions are likely to end in further argument.

Explain the details of your complaint and try to agree on a reasonable solution or compromise.

If the situation does not improve, then contact the Environmental Protection team: the telephone number is provided on the back of this leaflet.

Bonfire Guidelines

- If you have garden rubbish to dispose of, try to compost as much as possible.
- Consider using a shredding machine, which can reduce hardwood materials into a mulch for use on your garden. Shredders can be noisy, so be careful not to replace one nuisance with another.
- Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres, or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.

- Never use old engine oil, meths or petrol to light a fire.
- If you must light a bonfire, ensure that the material to be burnt is dry. This will minimise the amount of smoke produced.
- Do not light a fire when the weather conditions might cause the smoke to travel into your neighbours' garden or property.
- Remember that smoke will hang in the air on a damp, windless day and in the evening around sunset.
- Position any bonfire as far away from buildings as possible. Don't light a fire if the wind will carry the smoke over roads.
- Never leave a fire to smoulder - put it out with water or soil.

