

BONFIRES

Following complaints to Environmental Protection about bonfire smoke from this and other allotment sites over the May bank holiday weekend, YACIO have developed a new policy for having bonfires. The policy stated here replaces any previous guidance about when you can have a bonfire and must be complied with by all plot holders with immediate effect.

Allowing a bonfire to cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents or other allotment tenants contravenes your allotment tenancy agreement. It may also be an offence under environmental protection law. If the Council's Environmental Protection Unit receive a complaint they issue an official warning. After a warning, further nuisance could lead to a court appearance and a fine of up to £5,000.

Please follow these rules for trouble free bonfires:

- Don't light a bonfire on a warm dry day or evening, as neighbouring residents may be sitting out in their garden or drying their washing
- Between Easter & October you should only have a fire when the weather is cold and grey, never have a fire when the weather is sunny and dry
- Don't burn your weeds - most can be composted or buried
- Only burn dry, woody garden waste that can't be composted
- Never use petrol, diesel, or oil to start or feed a fire
- Don't have a bonfire on a very windy day, or when the wind blows the smoke towards neighbouring houses
- Don't have a bonfire when it's raining, drizzling, or when the air is very damp
- Don't bring rubbish from home to burn on your plot
- Always make sure the fire is out before you leave

We hope you find this common-sense guidance useful. Please contact any member of the committee if you have any questions, or look at the website for guidance on alternatives to bonfires
www.hemland-lane-allotments.co.uk

