

Take your waste to a household waste site

Location	Opening Hours
Hazel Court or Moor Lane, Towthorpe	The household waste sites are operational all year. For up to date information on opening hours, call 551551 or check www.york.gov.uk/environment/waste/

Note: All sites are closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

If you would like this information in an accessible format (for example in large print, on tape or by email) or another language please telephone: 01904 551555 or email: environmental.protection@york.gov.uk.

This information can be provided in your own language.

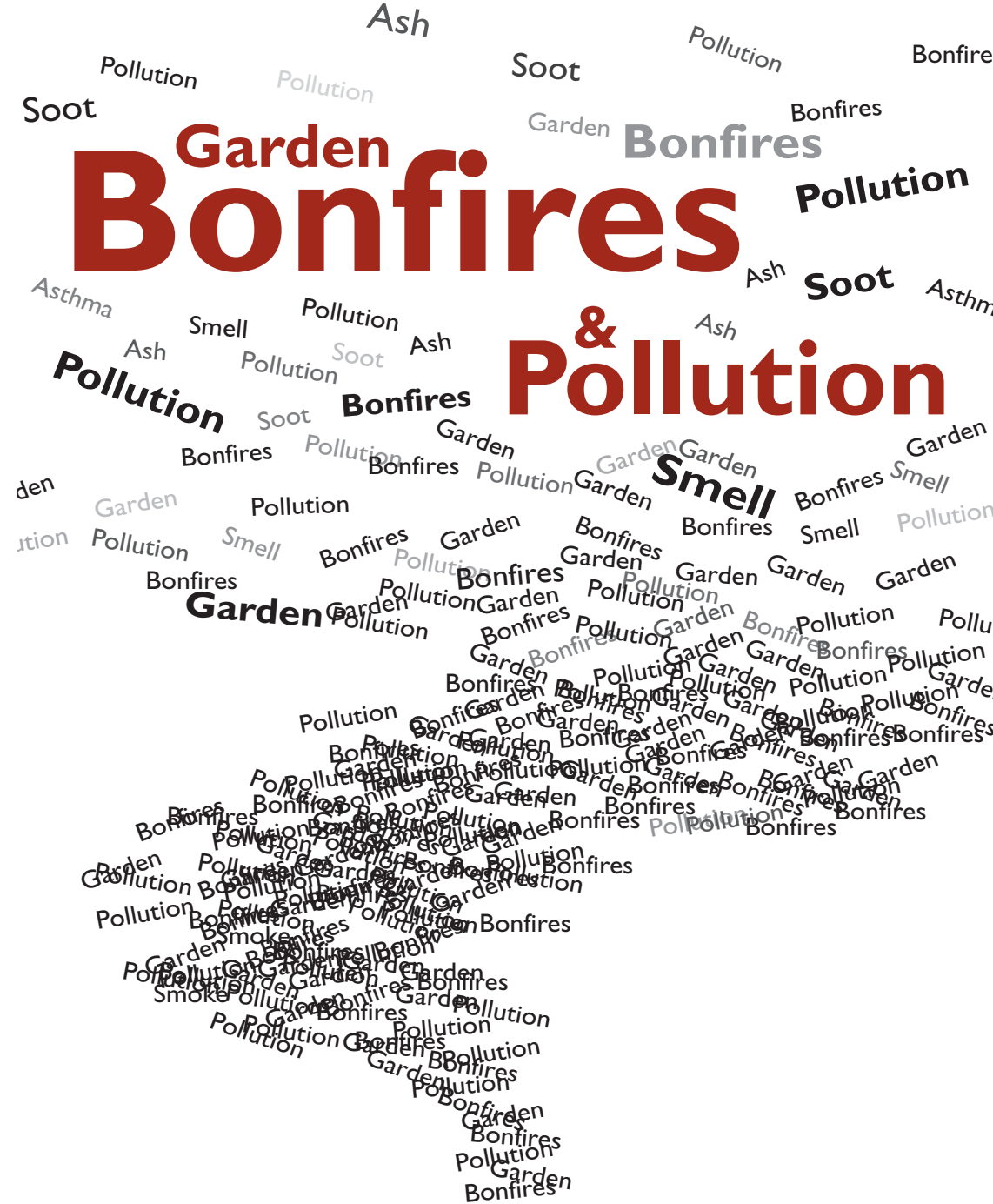
我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

 01904 551550

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Garden Bonfires and Pollution

Garden bonfires are often used to get rid of unwanted green waste, but can be a health hazard and cause a nuisance to other people.

Bonfires can damage your health

- ...especially the health of children, the elderly and those with asthma and other breathing problems.
- Household or commercial waste can include plastics, painted materials, plywood and chipboard that, when burned, can give off poisonous chemicals, some of which can also cause cancer. **These wastes should never be burned in the garden!**

Bonfires pollute the environment

- Pollution from bonfires can worsen air quality.
- Bonfires can produce greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide which contribute to global warming

Bonfires can spoil your enjoyment

- No one wants to sit outside, put their washing out or even open windows when there is a smoky bonfire.
- Avoid bonfires when the wind is blowing in the direction of your neighbours.
- Smoke, soot and ash can be a nuisance.
- **Never** use petrol, methylated spirits or similar to light a fire.
- A bonfire should not be left unattended.

Bonfires and the Law

If a bonfire is causing you a nuisance, it is best to approach the person causing it and politely make them aware of this. Often people are not aware that they are causing a nuisance. If the problem continues, however, there are laws to help you. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, it is an offence to emit smoke, fumes or gases which are a nuisance.

A nuisance would be caused if a bonfire occurs at a property on more than one occasion and the smoke or soot affect you, at your property, on each of these occasions. If, after an investigation, the council decides that the bonfire is causing a nuisance, they will approach the person responsible and ask them to stop. If they refuse, an abatement notice will be served which will require them to stop having bonfires. Failure to comply with the requirements of a notice can lead to court action and a fine of up to £5000.

Byelaws

There are no byelaws prohibiting bonfires and no permitted 'lighting up times' in York. Smoke control areas only apply to smoke from chimneys, caused by burning coal inside the house; they do not apply to gardens.

How to make a complaint

You can contact the Environmental Protection Unit:

- By telephoning **01904 551555**
- By writing to: **Environmental Protection Unit, Hazel Court Eco Depot, James St, York YO10 3DS**
- By calling at the reception at **West Offices, Station Rise, York YO1 6GA**
- By e-mailing: **environmental.protection@york.gov.uk**

You don't need to have a bonfire - there are alternatives:

Composting

Most garden and kitchen waste, even some paper and cardboard can be composted. For further information on composting telephone City of York Council on **01904 551551**.