

# BONFIRE & FIREWORK SAFETY

If you are having a bonfire, whether it's to get rid of garden waste or part of a celebration, take care. Follow the simple tips below to make sure you, and others are safe and acting lawfully.

Before you light the bonfire please call our Fire Control on 01305 753166 to inform them of your controlled burn, this can prevent false alarm calls or we can be prepared in case an incident does happen.

## **BUILDING A BONFIRE:**

Fire can spread easily, so where and how you build your bonfire is important. If you have a bonfire, follow these simple guidelines:

- warn your neighbours beforehand - they are much less likely to complain
- light the bonfire at a time least likely to affect your neighbours
- light the fire when the wind is blowing away from your neighbours
- only burn dry material not damp, which causes more smoke
- build the bonfire away from sheds, fences and trees
- build the bonfire only when it is to be lit as otherwise wildlife may have taken shelter in the pile
- check there are no cables - like telephone wires - above the bonfire
- don't use petrol or paraffin to get the fire going – it may get out of control quickly.
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## **BONFIRE SAFETY TIPS:**

Once the bonfire is lit, make sure you:

- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby - in case of emergencies
- Don't leave the bonfire unattended
- Keep children and pets away from the bonfire
- Don't throw any fireworks into the fire
- Don't burn aerosols, tyres, canisters or anything containing foam or paint. Many produce toxic fumes and some containers may explode, causing injury.