



East Cambridgeshire
District Council

"Burn Voyage" to **BONFIRES**

**Air
Pollution**

Burning plastics, rubber or treated wood produces a range of poisonous compounds. This can have a damaging effect on people's health, especially for those who suffer from respiratory problems such as asthma.



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Smoke Nuisance

It is an offence under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to cause a statutory smoke nuisance. This can happen when the smoke or smell materially affects the use or enjoyment of neighbouring properties. If you cause a smoke nuisance the local authority may issue you with an Abatement Notice and you could be prosecuted if you do not comply.



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**Contaminated
Land
and Water**

Burning waste in the open may release harmful gases, particulates and dust. Residues of harmful chemicals such as lead paints, tars and oils that remain in the ashes can be washed into the ground by rain. This may lead to contamination of the soil, groundwater and surface waters.



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Garden Bonfires

Garden waste bonfires are permitted providing only garden waste (wood, branches etc.) is burnt and where it does not cause a nuisance to other people in the locality. In some built up residential locations it may be difficult to burn material without affecting someone. In most circumstances it is generally better not to burn the garden waste but to dispose of it by taking it to the local waste recycling centre.