



**Isle of Man
Government**

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Rheynn Chymmyltaght, Bee as Eirinys

Bonfires, the Law and You

Under the Public Health Act 1990 if smoke from a bonfire in your garden or outdoor stove affects the comfort and enjoyment of neighbours this could be considered a statutory nuisance.

There are no specified times acceptable to have a bonfire at home but please take into consideration the neighbours.

It is illegal to burn controlled (household, commercial, or industrial) waste without a license.– controlled waste must be disposed of at a licenced facility This is subject to some exemptions including disposal of household waste within the curtilage of the householder's premises. DEFA issue license exemptions for the controlled burning of gorse and diseased timber - Please apply to DEFA.



To report any burning of controlled waste, please contact DEFA on 685 535

The burning of household, industrial or commercial waste except at a licensed Energy from Waste facility is an offence and can lead to prosecution.

Uncontrolled burning of wastes creates cancer causing chemical compounds called Dioxins. If you have a bonfire at home don't burn household waste, treated wood, rubber, tyres or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.

The Energy from Waste facility is highly regulated and only processes waste at temperatures above 850°C in order to destroy the cancer causing Dioxins.

There are four civic amenity sites across the island which are free for householders to dispose of their waste. Please see the link for more information;

<https://www.gov.im/categories/home-and-neighbourhood/civic-amenity-sites/>

DEFA and DoI provide a scheme to collect plastic waste from farms which is disposed of at the Energy from Waste facility, please contact DEFA 686 540.

Treated or contaminated wood can be collected and disposed of at the Energy from Waste facility for a reduced gate fee. Contact any of the local waste collectors for more information – help produce electricity for the Isle of Man.

Remember to always check for hedgehogs and other small animals before lighting a bonfire.



Fact – The 2010 Dioxin Inventory shows the emissions from bonfire night accounted for 3.6% of all UK emissions, whereas emissions from all of the UK's energy from waste facilities accounted for just 0.64% each year.

Keep the bonfire clean and tidy and help improve and enhance the Isle of Man – a special place to live and work.

Any queries please contact DEFA on 685 535