

Much Birch Parish Council

Some Information about Bonfires

Garden bonfires: the rules

There are no laws against having a bonfire, but there are laws for the nuisance they can cause.

Burning domestic waste

You **cannot** get rid of household waste if it will cause pollution or harm people's health. This includes burning it.

You **can** get rid of household or garden waste by composting or recycling it. Contact your local council to find out how to dispose of garden waste and about recycling in your area.

Danger to traffic by smoke

You could be fined if you light a fire and you allow the smoke to drift across the road and become a danger to traffic, per the Highways Act 1980. If this happens, call the police.

Complain about a neighbour's bonfire

Your council can issue an 'abatement notice' if a neighbour's bonfire is causing a nuisance. A bonfire must happen frequently to be considered a nuisance. This may mean that they will have to stop having bonfires entirely.

Your neighbour can be fined up to £5,000 if they don't stick to the notice.

For further information please see <https://www.gov.uk/garden-bonfires-rules>