

We know people want to do everything they can to help during the pandemic, but one simple, really effective way to help is by not burning waste.

Whilst we fully appreciate households may be experiencing a build-up of waste materials at the moment we are asking people to think twice about burning it and consider both their neighbours wellbeing and their own safety.

Recent dry and breezy weather has resulted in tinder dry materials and gardens leading to many domestic waste fires burning out of control, spreading to fences, On the 16th July 2016 Michael and his wife Helen were out in the garden doing some tidying up.

They decided to get rid of the garden waste by having a bonfire.

This is their story...

Michael's story When a garden bonfire goes wrong Click image box to play

sheds, garages, vehicles and even people's homes. The physical damage caused by these fires not with standing, the smoke produced can also have a serious impact on neighbours who may have health issues, aggravated by smoke.



Being affected by nuisance behaviour?

Click image to play

When we deal with these entirely avoidable fires, or local councils have to deal with complaints, precious time and resources are being diverted from other activities. At this time both fire service and council staff are busy helping vulnerable people in the community deal with this challenging situation so we really would appeal for people to think about the wider impact of their actions – and keep themselves safe too.

Group Manager Mark Hutton discusses the wider impacts of burning domestic waste at home during the coronavirus pandemic.



Click image to play

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service does not in itself have legal powers to intervene in nuisance behaviours however local councils do and we would encourage anyone who is being affected by nuisance fires to raise these concerns by contacting their local council. Contact details are available on the reverse side of our information flyer below.



Burning waste produces smoke that can have damaging health effects and are a nuisance for people living nearby, particularly if they are suffering from Coronavirus.

If the council believes you are causing a nuisance they can serve a nuisance abatement notice under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, which if not followed could lead to a court appearance and a fine.



If you are being affected by nuisance fires in your area please report the issue to your local council.



If you feel the fire poses a risk to property or life you should call 999.

Blackburn with Darwen Council

Email publicprotection@blackburn.gov.uk or call 01254 267699

Blackpool Council

Report nuisance fires online at www.Blackpool.gov.uk or or email: env.protection@blackpool.gov.uk

Burnley Council Visit www.burnley.gov.uk/residents and complain online or call Environmental Health on 01282 425011

Chorley Council Report issues at www.chorley.gov.uk or call: 01257 515151

Fylde Council Call Environmental Protection on: 01253 658658 or email: environmentalprotection@fylde.gov.uk

Hyndburn Borough Council

Call the Environmental Protection Team on 01254 388 111 or email: enquiries@hyndburnbc.gov.uk

Lancaster City Council Email: environmentalhealth@lancster.gov.uk or call: 01524 582 935

Pendle Council

Report online at www.pendle.gov.uk/fire or call: 01282 661661

Preston City Council

Report online at <u>www.preston.gov.uk</u> or call: 01772 906907

Ribble Valley Borough Council

Email <u>contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk</u> or call 01200 425111

South Ribble Borough Council

Call 01772 625 625 or email info@southribble.gov

West Lancs Borough Council

Visit <u>www.westlancs.gov.uk</u> or alternatively get in touch via social media

Wyre Borough Council

Call 01253 891000 or email: mailroom@wyre.gov.uk



www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk