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**Bonfires** (from Appendix 2 of Tenants notes and responsibilities – Probationer Pack)

**Bonfires are NOT permitted between 1<sup>ST</sup> April and 30<sup>TH</sup> Sept each year.**

This covers all fires, including incinerators, but does not include barbeques, using charcoal.

It is always preferable to compost as much allotment waste as possible; it is environmentally friendly and will provide you with free compost for your garden. If you require a compost bin, the Recycling Department at Haringey Council can advise you on where to obtain one.

We appreciate that you may have allotment waste which is non-compostable and may need to have a small bonfire. If this is the case we ask that you remember the following:

- Bonfires may only be lit where they cause no nuisance to any neighbour, tenant or otherwise.
- If you are asked to extinguish a nuisance bonfire by a neighbour, Tenant or otherwise, you must do so immediately.
- Only dry natural materials may be burnt, e.g. dry diseased plants, perennial weeds, stalks and prunings.
- Bonfires are not permitted at any time for the burning of manufactured materials such as plastics and rubber.
- A quick hot fire will produce minimum smoke
- Do not light a bonfire within one hour of sunset or leave alight later than one hour after sunset. Climatic conditions at these times may increase the smoke problem
- A bonfire should never be left unattended; make sure that when leaving the plot the fire is completely extinguished.
- Notice must be paid to Council guidelines, the law and other protocols that may exist on individual sites.

There is no law prohibiting anyone from having a bonfire. However, a smoky bonfire which causes a nuisance to local residents may be in contravention of Section 16 of the Clean Air Act 1956.

It is also in contravention of the allotment agreement and could result in loss of your tenancy.

**The Environmental Protection Act 1990** prohibits a **statutory nuisance** being caused by smoke, fumes, gases or odour. Whether a **statutory nuisance** is caused depends on how often the problem occurs, the amount of smoke produced, and how the smoke affects the person complaining. To be a nuisance the smoke must either be a cause of material harm or must substantially interfere with the enjoyment of land.

(January 2023)