



Test Valley Partnership's

# Halloween & Bonfire Message



Test Valley  
PARTNERSHIP

## BONFIRE SAFETY

**Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service** would like to remind organisers to take note of the following information when planning a bonfire event:

### The fire site should be large enough

- Away from buildings, sheds and fences
- Away from overhanging cables and trees
- With clear escape routes in case of emergency

If you are having fireworks, always keep them well away from the fire in a closed container.

### Know what's in your fire!

- Avoid painted or preserved wood
- Never use plastics
- Never add paint or paint containers or gas canisters
- Never use petrol to start your fire

### Build you bonfire on the day to:

- Avoid others using your fire as a fly tip
- Avoid children and animals injuring themselves

Arrange for fire extinguishers, buckets of water, buckets of sand and metal litter bins to be available on the night.

Keep a first aid kit within easy access.



For further advice on bonfire safety, please ring **023 8064 4000** and ask for Andover Fire Station. If you see an unofficial bonfire being built, please contact Test Valley Borough Council on **01264 368000**. The rubbish will be removed as a priority.



## HALLOWEEN CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

While Halloween can undoubtedly be a great deal of fun, it can also be a particularly distressing time of year for some of the more vulnerable members of our communities - especially the elderly. With this in mind, Police are urging 'trick or treaters' to think carefully about which doors they knock on this Halloween. Better still, why not just stay at home and have a Halloween themed party with your friends and neighbours!

If you do decide to go 'trick or treating', please respect the wishes of any household displaying a '**No Trick or Treat**' poster.

Don't vandalise anything or throw things like eggs and flour. This can cause a great deal of damage and misery. What's more it can be classed as criminal damage, or even assault, and a night of 'fun' could end up with you in trouble with the police.

For more information contact Hampshire Police on **0845 045 45 45**

# BULKY WASTE

Bonfire night is an exciting time for everyone, but storing any bulky waste ready for use as part of a bonfire is both dangerous and unsightly. So if you have any bulky waste that you would like to dispose of, please use the following methods:

- take your items to the Household Waste Recycling Centre in Shepherd's Spring Lane, Andover or Bunny Lane, Timsbury (near Romsey). This is free of charge.
- arrange for your waste to be collected by the Council through its Bulky Waste Collection Service. This costs £13.00 for one item and £25.00 for up to ten items (where the collection time does not exceed 15 minutes). If you are claiming benefits you may qualify for a free collection. For further information, contact Customer Services on **01264 368000**
- donate your furniture (which is in a usable condition) to a charity or someone else. For example Testway Housing operates a furniture re-use service called 'Twice as Nice' and they will collect any suitable items from your house. For further information, call **01264 369615**
- arrange a collection privately with a contractor - please ensure they are a 'registered carrier of waste'.

Enforcement Officers will be patrolling the area and may issue Fixed Penalty Notices for littering offences (£75). More serious offences deemed to be fly-tipping will be subject to enforcement action and at present on conviction, this offence is subject to a fine of up to £50,000 and /or up to 5 years imprisonment.

## Bins

Normally, we ask you to place your refuse or recycling bin at the edge of your property by 7:00 am on your collection day and to recover your bin onto your property as soon as possible following the collection. Most residents follow our guidance every week, however, at this time of year it is important that everyone follows the guidance. This will help reduce the number of bin fires that usually occur at this time of year.

We hope this advice has been useful to you and that you enjoy the bonfire festivities safely and correctly. For further information contact Test Valley Borough Council on **01264 368000**

