

# Buckhurst Hill Leisure Gardens CIC

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## Code of conduct for bonfires on BHLGCIC sites

This code of practice is being issued following complaints from local residents to the Environmental Health Department of Epping Forest District Council (“EFDC”) concerning bonfires on a BHLGCIC Monkams site. It incorporates recommendations from EFDC, The National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Ltd (“NSALG”) and BHLGCIC specific issues. It is important that all BHLGCIC members abide by this code. Failure to do so may render a member liable to expulsion from BHLGCIC membership and from his allotment.

1. The lighting of fires is **prohibited during the months of April to September inclusive**.
2. The burning of the following materials during October to March only is allowed
  - (i) diseased plants; and
  - (ii) dried-out organic materialthat will burn with minimum smoke or hazardous residue
3. Tenants shall not bring or allow to be brought on to the Allotment Site any materials from elsewhere for the purpose of burning such waste. Never burn plastic waste. Never use oil or petrol to light a fire.
4. Check there are no frogs, toads or hedgehogs in the rubbish before burning it.
5. Bonfires may not be placed within six mtrs of any boundary of the Allotment site (i.e. the whole site comprising a number of plots).
6. **All fires must be attended at all times and must not cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents** (especially those with washing out, open windows or enjoying their gardens) or to other plot holders.  
**If in doubt – put it out!**
7. Bonfires only to be lit during daylight hours and not after two hours before dusk. All fires must be fully extinguished before leaving the site.
8. Site specific BHLGCIC codes:
  - a. On the three main sites of Monkams, Lower Queens Road and River Housing tenants are advised to light bonfires only when the wind is from the West to blow any smoke over open ground and the River Roding;
  - b. On River Housing tenants are advised not to light bonfires when cricket matches are being played on the pitches to the west of the site; and
  - c. On Monkams the BHLGCIC may designate the plots on the Eastern side of the site adjacent to the Hornbeam Road flats as being no bonfire plots, in which case an alternative communal bonfire site on the Monkams site will be designated for the use of those tenants no longer permitted to have bonfires on their own plots.
9. Any plot holder found to be causing a smoke nuisance by the Environmental Health Department of EFDC and/or a member of either Buckhurst Hill Parish Council and/or EFDC and/or the Executive Committee of BHLGCIC or to be in breach of this Code of Practice may have their allotment tenancy terminated.

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