Bonfire Night - keep safe and sound

Bonfire Night is a time to have enjoyment and fun with family and friends. However it is important to remember that both bonfires and fireworks are dangerous and acting irresponsibly can have devastating consequences, always follow the fireworks code.

Fireworks Code

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114.
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Follow the instructions on each firework.
- Light them at arm’s length, using a taper.
- Stand well back.
- Never go near a firework that has been lit.
- Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five.
- Keep pets indoors.
- Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11pm.

It is illegal to set off fireworks after 11pm (except on 5th November when they can be used up to midnight; and New Year’s Eve, Chinese New Year and Diwali when they can be used up to 1am the following day.)

Firework frighten animals

For advice on what to do to protect and help your pet when fireworks are being let off see the RSPCA’s webpage fireworks frighten animals.

For further information on fireworks:

- Directgov's - firework safety and the law
- Directgov's - organising a fireworks display
- Department for Business Innovation and Skills - firework regulations
- HSE - giving you own firework display

Bonfires

Before lighting a bonfire, whether it's to get rid of garden waste or part of a celebration, such a Bonfire night, why not find out how to do it safely. Remember bonfires may upset you neighbours for more information see Directgov's webpage on bonfires - safety and the law.

Remember: Smoke from bonfires can be classified as a nuisance.