

Smoke from bonfires can cause problems for people with underlying health conditions such as asthma, bronchitis and heart conditions.

Bonfires can be annoying to neighbours, cause air pollution, be a hazard to road users, and cause a fire hazard if they are close to trees or fences.

However, there are alternatives for cardboard, garden waste and real Christmas trees.

As long as cardboard fits in your recycling box, and excess cardboard is left out in pieces, reduced down to approximately the size of your green box and placed tidily underneath or next to the recycling box on collection day, it will be taken away.

If you have real Christmas tree, Stroud District Council is once again supporting the Longfield hospice Christmas tree recycling scheme.

For a minimum donation of £10 your Christmas tree will be collected from your home and the money raised will help support people with life limiting illnesses.

Registration is now open until 3 January. Book at www.charityxmastreecollection.com

Stroud District Council also runs a garden waste recycling service which re-starts in February 2022. Find out if you are eligible to subscribe here: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/apps/garden-waste-collection-service>

Or you can take garden waste to Household Waste and Recycling Centre, such as Pyke Quarry near Horsley, run by Gloucestershire County Council. It is normally open six days a week (closed on Wednesdays) and will be closed on December 25 and 26 and January 1. To book a visit: <https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/>

Some garden waste and household waste is suitable for composting. Further information about home composting can be found on www.recyclenow.com.

So, if you're thinking of making a bonfire over the festive period, please think about the impact it may have on your neighbours first.

More information: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/environmental-health/pollution-and-nuisance/bonfires-and-smoke-smoke-control>

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ENDS

Background Information

Stroud District Council is led by a cooperative alliance of the Labour, Green and Liberal Democrat parties.

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