

Fire Safety Advice



Reading this leaflet could save your life

During the summer there was a fire in an Ocean property. Fortunately nobody was hurt. The fire was started deliberately in the garden and spread very quickly because of the large amount of rubbish stored outside the home. It was only due to the prompt response of the local Fire Brigade that nobody was injured and neighbouring properties were not damaged.

Our concern is for your safety and we want to remind you how important it is to keep gardens and communal areas free of rubbish and any inflammable materials.

Often we do not realise that we are causing a fire hazard. Leaving a push bike in the corridor of a block of flats, storing a pram in the stairwell, or even putting your rubbish in the communal hallway overnight before collection, can increase the risk of fire and block escape routes.

It is equally dangerous to store rubbish or other inflammable materials outside against the walls of your home or next to any garden or boundary fencing.

All these hazards are easy to avoid. By keeping communal areas clear and disposing of rubbish properly, you are helping to keep you, your family and neighbours safe.

Please read our top fire safety tips overleaf.



Damage caused by a recent fire at an Ocean property

Help to dispose of rubbish and unwanted items

The council runs twelve waste and recycling centres in Cornwall where you can dispose of your rubbish for free.

If you are unable to take unwanted items to a centre, Cornwall Council also operates a bulky waste collection service for residents. This covers items that are too large to be picked up at the kerbside by refuse or recycling collections. The service costs £15 for the first four items, with additional items costing £7.50, up to a maximum of eight items.

For more information about the waste and recycling centres or to book a bulky waste collection:

Call 0300 1234 141

Visit a Cornwall Council One Stop Shop

View the council website at www.cornwall.gov.uk

Email refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

In the interests of everyone's safety, if a resident refuses to move items left in communal areas we will have no option but to remove and dispose of the items at the owner's cost.

Making your home safe

- tips from the Fire Brigade

- Keep your smoke alarms free of dust and test them once a week.
- Make a fire action plan so everyone in your home knows how to escape if there is a fire.
- Keep the exits from your home clear, so that people can escape.
- Make sure everyone in your home can easily find keys for doors and windows.
- Take extra care in the kitchen – accidents while cooking account for over half of fires in the home. Never leave young children alone in the kitchen.
- Take extra care when cooking with hot oil and consider using a deep fat fryer as this is controlled by a thermostat.
- Never leave lit candles in rooms that nobody is in or in rooms where children are on their own. Make sure candles are in secure holders on a surface that does not burn and away from materials that could catch fire.
- Make sure cigarettes are stubbed out properly and disposed of carefully and never smoke in bed.
- Get into the habit of closing doors at night. If you want to keep a child's bedroom door open, close the doors to the lounge and kitchen, it may well help save their life if there is a fire.
- Don't overload electrical sockets.
- Keep matches and lighters where children cannot see or reach them.
- Take special care when you are tired or when you've been drinking.
- Don't leave the TV or other electrical appliances on standby as this could cause a fire. Always switch appliances off and unplug when not in use.

**In the case of an
emergency call 999**



If you are concerned about fire safety you can call 0800 3581999 – a free 24 hour fire safety advice helpline.



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