



# Your Duty of Care: Domestic Waste

## What is Duty of Care and how do I comply?

You have a duty to ensure all waste you produce is stored and disposed of responsibly and must not escape your control. You must only give your waste to people or businesses authorised to handle such materials.

## Who can I give my waste to?

Any person/business who handles waste must have the correct authorisations from the Environment Agency, these are:

- Waste Carriers License: held by a person or business who removes items of waste from your property (e.g. a skip hire company).
- Environmental Permit: held by a person or business that stores, treats or disposes of waste.

People / Businesses collecting any waste must provide you with a Waste Transfer Note which includes the waste description, quantity and the names and address of both persons involved in the transfer.

**Please be aware that a breach of a household's duty of care can result in you receiving a penalty fine of up to £5,000.**

## How do I know they are Authorised?

You can check if a business/person is authorised online at

[www.gov.uk/find-registered-waste-carrier](http://www.gov.uk/find-registered-waste-carrier)

## Can I burn waste?

Domestic waste should only be burnt as a last resort when other methods of disposal are not possible.

If you do burn waste on your land, it must not originate from a business and you should ensure the following:

- Only burn clean waste such as untreated wood and dried plant matter (e.g. tree branches).
- Do not burn any material capable of producing dark smoke (e.g. plastics, fabrics, treated wood, tyres, cables etc).
- Do not allow smoke to cause a nuisance for your neighbours. Be considerate to your neighbours by notifying them before a bonfire is lit and ensuring weather conditions are suitable.
- Do not allow smoke to pass over or across public highways.
- Ensure someone is present while the fire is burning and douse all embers to prevent smouldering.

## Further Information

To access the public register regarding authorised waste carriers, your Duty of Care and further information regarding domestic waste, please visit the Environment Agency on:

**[www.gov.uk/environmental-management/waste](http://www.gov.uk/environmental-management/waste)**

or phone: 03708 506 506.

If you suspect that someone is offering to remove your waste without the correct authorisation, do not give it to them and contact the Environmental Protection Team; **[ep@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:ep@north-norfolk.gov.uk)** or **01263 516085**.