



Altar Fire Policy V2025-1

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Altar Fire Policy

This policy covers the use of the Bentley Copse altar fires.

Rule

Use of altar fires is on a first come first served basis. Their storage location is marked on the site map.

Altar fires may only be used by competent persons operating under a suitable operating procedure and risk assessment. As a minimum this must include the risks from *open flames, ignition sources, dry conditions, windy conditions, manual handling and sharp edges*

Altar fires can be used on any camping location with a minimum 5m gap from gas appliances, tents and other flammable items.

A fire extinguisher or bucket of water must be available (within 5m) of any altar fire or open fire.

Altar consist of a set of scaffold legs, a half oil drum and (optionally) a grate.

Open fires must not be lit using liquid accelerants.

Rubbish may not be burned anywhere at Bentley Copse.

If cooking on altar fires, you should take appropriate hygiene precautions. Our grills and grates should not be considered food safe.

Schools and DofE groups may not allow unsupervised access to open fires by young persons.

The fire and hot ashes must be contained in the half oil drum. *Do not allow hot ashes to fall out.*

Hot altar fires, or those containing an open fire, must not be moved unless cooled.

Corrugated iron sheeting must be used under altar fires when used on grass.

Altar fires must be returned in an organised, clean and cool condition to their store location marked on the site map. The drums should be inverted to shed rain.

Hot ashes must be allowed to cool before disposal. Ashes, once cooled, should be put in the large metal ash bin.

Altar fire use is free of charge – If returned to their store location as directed. A £10 per altar fire fee is payable for us returning them for you.

Permission to use our altar fires, open fires, BBQs or other sources of ignition can be removed by any Bentley Copse team member if its use compromises safety or disrupts other groups. In severe cases of safety or disruption your permission to remain at Bentley Copse may be removed.



Assembled Altar Fire



Altar Fires, Upside down to shed rain.

End Of Altar Fire Policy