

**Press release**  
**31 March 2010**

## **Green fingered people in north Wales urged to spring clean responsibly**

With the arrival of Spring and the bank holiday weekend beckoning, for many people in north Wales, it's the perfect time to clear the garden ready for Summer.

But with 2,240 tonnes of green waste fly-tipped in Wales in 2009 alone, Fly-tipping Action Wales is urging the public to dispose of their green waste responsibly.

Last year 624 incidents of fly-tipped green waste were reported during the Spring clean season between March and May, the time frame when illegally dumped green waste soars.

This type of waste emits carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and garden waste, such as wood and bark takes a long time to degrade and can therefore provide habitat for fungi and insects, creating a problem particularly in urban areas.

The annual clean-up costs for fly-tipping to taxpayers in Wales is £3 million. Anthony Randles, North Wales Co-ordinator for Fly-tipping Action Wales, explained that people who fly-tip or give their green waste to businesses without checking where it's going, are contributing to these costs.

Anthony said: "Images of tyres and tatty sofas on roadsides are most likely to come to mind when people think of fly-tipping but like any form of fly-tipping, green waste is also an eyesore and blights our cities and countryside. Dumping your garden waste is not only bad for the environment, but it could also attract other, more hazardous waste to the same site, such as gas cylinders and construction waste.

"If you're thinking of doing a bit of DIY or some gardening this bank holiday weekend, please make sure that you get rid of your waste responsibly. Recycle or dispose of your waste at your local amenity site which you can find through your local authority, or if using a business or trader, please make sure that they're a registered waste carrier. Remember, your waste is your responsibility."

Green waste such as tree and grass cuttings are all compostable materials which can be readily recycled to produce an important biodegradable resource.

Many local authorities in north Wales, including Gwynedd Council and Wrexham County Borough Council, offer green waste collection schemes, or alternatively please recycle your green waste for free at your local authority's household waste and recycling centre or local amenity site. Please visit your local authority's website for further information.

For more information about fly-tipping and how to dispose of your waste legally or to find registered waste carriers in your area, please visit [www.flytippingactionwales.org](http://www.flytippingactionwales.org)