# Lancashire residents frustrated by recycling centre closures amid warm weather surge



The recent warm weather in the UK has led to a surge in recycling efforts, particularly in Lancashire, but not without considerable frustration among residents following an announcement by the Lancashire County Council. Due to "high demand," the council has temporarily closed three of its recycling centres in Burnley, Altham, and Haslingden, causing anger among locals who found themselves turned away due to full skips.

The closures, which began over the weekend, have sparked complaints from residents who rely on these facilities to dispose of their waste responsibly. Speaking on Monday evening about the situation, a spokesperson for the council noted that "As we enjoy the sunny weather, it seems many people are having spring cleans," indicating that the influx of visitors to the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) was unprecedented. The spokesperson added, “several of the sites had to temporarily stop accepting waste over the weekend due to the number of people."

As families flocked to parks and enjoyed pub gardens over the sunny Easter weekend, those in Lancashire faced the unique challenge of limited access to recycling services. Residents have expressed their discontent on social media, with one commenter questioning, "Is this what Council Tax increases have gone towards... withdrawal of important facilities?" While another pointed out the irony of closing centres aimed at promoting recycling, leading to concerns about increasing fly-tipping.

"I arrived today in the morning around 11 turned away at winny hill," one frustrated resident shared. "Try and do the right thing and pay thousands in council tax each year for the services to be rubbish." Another described the situation at the Haslingden centre as "utter shambles," stating that recycling efforts had been compromised, with various materials improperly mixed due to the overflow of waste.

The forecast from the Met Office suggests that the warm weather across the UK will persist into the week, with temperatures expected to reach highs of 17C on Wednesday, 19C on Thursday, and 21C on Friday. Recent temperatures have reportedly soared to 24C in Suffolk and 23C in Southampton, surpassing those in several popular sun destinations in southern Europe.

In Northern Ireland, however, the warm weather has exacerbated another critical issue: wildfires. More than 50 firefighters are currently battling significant wildfires in the Mourne Mountains, prompting a major incident declaration. These fires occurred amid an amber wildfire warning as concerns of further ignitions grow with the continuing hot weather conditions. The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service reported receiving an influx of emergency calls related to wildfires, indicating a drastic situation in the region.

First Minister Michelle O'Neill reacted to the wildfires, expressing her dismay over the destruction the blazes have caused. "It's absolutely devastating to see these fires rage right across the Mournes," she said, underlining the need for action to prevent such occurrences in the future. Environment Minister Andrew Muir has also issued warnings against deliberate fire setting, indicating that such actions could lead to severe legal consequences.

As the UK continues to bask in unseasonably nice weather, the contrasting situations in Lancashire and Northern Ireland demonstrate the broad impacts of climatic conditions on local services and environmental safety. While many are enjoying the sunshine, communities are navigating the consequences that accompany such changes in weather patterns.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://news.lancashire.gov.uk/news/high-demand-led-to-temporary-closures-at-household-waste-recycling-centres> - Corroborates the information about temporary closures of Household Waste Recycling Centres in Lancashire due to high demand caused by the recent warm weather.
* <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/forecast/uk> - Provides the weather forecast for the UK, which supports the claim of persisting warm weather across the region.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-64067003> - Reports on the wildfires in Northern Ireland’s Mourne Mountains, highlighting the devastating impacts of the warm weather in the region.
* <https://www.nifrs.org/news/nifrs-response-to-mourne-mountain-wildfires> - Details the efforts by Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service in combating the wildfires, further illustrating the severe consequences of the weather.
* <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/recycling-centres> - Provides information on Household Waste Recycling Centres in Lancashire, which aids in understanding the services affected by the recent closures.