

Wednesday, 24 March 2021

For immediate release

PRESS RELEASE

Clean up for Tamar Valley beauty spot after fly tipping – everything including the kitchen sink cleared at Wacker Quay

Following a spate of fly tipping at a much-loved beauty spot within the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a small team including volunteers spent a day last week clearing an estimated two tonnes of dumped waste.

Wacker Quay, just off the A374 between Trerulefoot and Antony, and sitting on the estuary of the River Lynher, is a haven for wildlife. It's also a place for fresh air and quiet walks enjoyed by many locals, especially valued as part of daily exercise under lockdown.

Historically, the area has been prone to fly tipping, and unfortunately this has increased recently. Items dumped included a washing machine, a vacuum cleaner, a whole set of ornamental garden statues, many bags of household, garden and DIY waste and even a kitchen sink.

With the help of two socially distanced Valley Volunteers, Tamar Valley AONB Manager, Dan Cooke, spent 4 hours removing the waste, ready for collection by an authorised local contractor.

Dan said, “It is sad that a small minority of people continue to spoil such a beautiful place as Wacker Quay for others by fly-tipping their waste. It’s not only illegal, but it’s also unpleasant and dangerous for people, wildlife and pets.

“It’s especially frustrating as much of what we cleared is recyclable and can be easily taken to the Council’s Household Waste Recycling Centre at Saltash.”

This clean up was a joint effort and we’d like to thank Tamar Community Trust for safely coordinating their volunteers, and Cornwall Council for advice regarding the waste removal. We’ll now be working together to prevent and deter further tipping at Wacker Quay in the longer term.”

ENDS

Notes to editors

Anyone wanting to not break the law and spoil our outstandingly beautiful countryside can take all types of household waste for recycling or disposal at the Cornwall Council Household Waste Recycling Centre at Tamar View Industrial Estate, Saltash PL12 6UA. Cornwall Council also offer a Bulky Waste collections service, to collect items such as furniture, etc. from households for a relatively small charge. Householders and businesses have a legal duty of care to ensure waste is disposed of or recycled correctly.

Images attached courtesy of Tamar Valley AONB.

About the Tamar Valley AONB

- The main purpose of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) partnership is to conserve and enhance the landscape of this special area.
- Cornwall and Devon County Councils, South Hams District Council, West Devon Borough Council and Plymouth City Council have formally adopted the Tamar Valley AONB Management Plan 2019-2024 and these local authorities (except Plymouth City) together with Defra also fund the core work of the AONB. There are presently 28 members of the AONB Partnership.
- Since 2011, Defra has been responsible for the direct funding of AONBs through a tripartite agreement between Defra, Natural England and National Association for AONBs.
- The AONB Management Plan guides and informs authorities in the application of their statutory duty to have regard to the purposes of the AONB.
- We must all work together to protect our finest countryside.

For further details, please contact Charlotte Dancer, Information & Communications Officer,
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