

LAC Project by Teve and Jekaterina “Waste-Burning Talk”

Skimming through the Estonian environmental challenges, one very crucial fact hit our concerns-backyard waste burning. Also, it turns out that backyard waste burning is the main cause of forest and field fires in Estonia. The project idea was to research main health and environmental impacts, as well as local, national and international level legislation related to waste burning. For our project we chose two research areas: one in the centre of Estonia Võhma and another one in North-East of Estonia Sinimäe. In addition, we attempted to focus our project and promote sustainable St John’s Day, where bonfire is a fundamental part of the celebration.

Learn Background research was divided into three parts: legislation, health and environmental impacts. The survey was undertaken with 30 respondents before the project initiation to establish the rationale for ‘Waste- Burning Talk’.

Backyard waste burning is very harmful to the environment and health, as it emits pollutants that impact the surroundings for several hours and remain in soil, water, air for a long time after burning. Burning the chemically treated materials can cause severe health problems such as heart diseases, asthma and emphysema, rashes, nausea, or headaches. Especially vulnerable are small children, the elderly, people with pre-existing respiratory conditions and pregnant women.

There are several waste related regulations and legislation in Estonia. The Acts clearly show that Estonia is gaining more control over its waste management. However, it is not enough to stop illegal backyard waste burning.



Apply Evidential photographs and videos were taken from different parts of Estonia. Public lecture was held in Võhma, and important interviews were held with local authorities and business holders in both research areas. All proved there are still gaps in vigilance system, lack of knowledge and underestimation of the seriousness of environmental and health impacts caused by backyard waste burning.

Communicate We aimed to make a change on grassroots level by talking to people, making presentations and interviewing. The final communication stage consisted of presenting our findings and concerns in the local media, where we engaged backyard waste burning with Saint John’s celebrations that take place every year on 23rd of June. Although our initial plan was to issue leaflets, the article seemed more sustainable and easier way to reach local people.



Tervislik jaanituli

On kevad ning jaanituli- jaanipäev pole enam kaugel. Algab traditsiooniline kuld- ja prahipõletamise aeg. Enamik kipub aru mõeldest minema, kui ohulik on tegelikkust süüa kües villemine. Eriti ohulik olukord tekib, kui põletatakse enam mitte vajaminevad esemed, mis sisaldavad keemilisi aineid ning mille vabastamine madalal temperatuuril põletamine tekitab mürgiseid aineid, mida tavainimeseks nähteks, mida põletatakse, on lihtsast ning põletatakse väinematud esemed. Tohaks põletada ainult keemiliselt töötlemata puitu, kartongi ja kiletamata paberi.

Peale selle, et prahi põletamine on otseselt kahjulik inimese tervisele, on see ohulik ka loodusele, sest diskordid ning muud keemilised ained/vabastatud ained püüakse/veeritakse pikka aega ning need on isegi väga raske eemaldada. Koduses majapidamises põletatakse tihti paberit ning aiatähtmeid, kuigi paberit- prahi võiks via vastavatesse jäätmekeelutussead- rusesse ja orgaaniline prahi põletatakse, on lihtsast ning põletatakse väinematud esemed. Tohaks põletada ainult keemiliselt töötlemata pui-

na jäätmeveo korraldaja või linnavalitsuse poole täpsema informatsiooni saamiseks. Saate kindlasti vi viastest tead hantava- te küsimuste nagu kas asuvad paberitehased, kuhu via külaasutused, puuke jms.

Eriti ohulik on tervisele ning keskkonnale, kui lihtsast teha keemiliseid aineid ning lihtsast põletatakse et ohukorras, kus lihtsast esemed on määrad. Mõel- peab pidama, et ikkaks tek- kind keemilised ühendid on nähtamatud ning akna sulgemine et talista mürgi- tel ühenditel sisenemast ka hooneisse. Ka tahk ei ole lahendus, sest tahk lestad

viaga palju ohulikke keemilisi aineid.

Samuti tahk ikkaks te- gemistelt süüa püüda, et ikkaks oleks vähemalt 15 m kaugusel hoonest ning 30 m kaugusel metsast. Läh- taks teha mürgipõlevate aineid ning kindlasti et tohaks lihtsast jätta äärelvabata. Läh- kartegid võiks olla kät- püüda, et ikkaks tek- kind keemilised ühendid on nähtamatud ning akna sulgemine et talista mürgi- tel ühenditel sisenemast ka hooneisse. Ka tahk ei ole lahendus, sest tahk lestad

Teve Kink

Uncontrolled burning of non-segregated domestic waste and subsequent release of toxic and dangerous by-products cause environmental pollution and impact human health.