



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

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Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korteski, Director

February 5, 2007

**RE: WASHINGTON COUNTY
TIRE - GENERAL**

Kurt Miller
2635 Vickers Road
Marietta, Ohio 45750

Dear Mr. Miller:

On January 16, 2007, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency received a complaint concerning property owned by you on Vickers Road in Washington County. The complaint alleges that you are bringing scrap tires onto your property and proceed to open burn them for disposal. On January 25, 2007, I met with you to discuss what activities were taking place on your property. You stated that you had indeed used scrap tires to start brush fires in the past. I informed you that this is not permitted under state law and must stop immediately. You stated you understood and that you would no longer burn scrap tires on your property.

During the course of this visit, approximately 14 scrap tires were observed on the hillside above the house, near the garage. Improper storage of scrap tires poses several potential problems for the local residents, environment, and the emergency crews in the area. Scrap tires provide an optimal breeding ground for mosquitoes. Mosquitoes identified at tire piles in Ohio can carry St. Louis Encephalitis, La Crosse Encephalitis, Yellow Fever, Dengue Fever and West Nile Virus. These scrap tires need to be stored in a manner so that mosquito breeding is inhibited.

Scrap tire fires are a source of air pollution and can cause respiratory problems for those that breathe the smoke. Tire fires are also difficult for emergency crews to extinguish.

These tires need to be stored inside or under cover to inhibit the accumulation of rain water within the tire and to inhibit the incidence of fire.

Ohio law require that anyone removing scrap tires for disposal must take the tires to either a licensed or registered scrap tire collection, recovery or disposal facility. Receipts from these facilities need to be on file at your facility to provide proof of proper disposal. Also, anyone transporting more than ten (10) scrap tires must be registered with Ohio EPA as a Scrap Tire Transporter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at this office. You can reach me either by mail or by calling me at (740) 380-5443.

Sincerely,

Trevor L. Irwin, RS
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

TLI/jg

cc: Washington County Health Department