



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

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

Re: Waste Disposal
Hardin County

July 31, 2008

Mr. Laurice Jordan
16910 CR 75
Belle Center, Ohio 43310

Dear Mr. Jordan:

On April 7, 2008, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Northwest District Office (NWDO) received an anonymous complaint regarding the properties you own at 16910 CR 75 and 18319 CR 75, Belle Center, Ohio, Hardin County. The complainant alleges that open dumping and open burning of solid waste is taking place on your properties. The solid waste reportedly comes out of repossessed houses that you and Ms. Cheryl Kerns have been cleaning. Multiple attempts have been made to contact you via telephone or in person, but these attempts have been unsuccessful.

On May 9, 2008, Ohio EPA visited your 16910 property in an attempt to locate you. You were not present on this day. However, during my visit, I observed a large pile of material that had been burned. The material consisted of a door, logs, plastic, glass, metal, and other miscellaneous solid waste. I also attempted to locate you at the 18319 property, but was unable to access the home back the long lane. However, from aerial photos of the property, it appears that there are large amounts of solid waste accumulated at this location. Please be aware that Ohio EPA has rules governing the disposal of solid waste.

Solid waste is defined in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-27-01(S)(23) as (in pertinent part):

"Solid waste" means such unwanted residual solid or semisolid material, including but not limited to, garbage, scrap tires, combustible and noncombustible material, street dirt and debris, as results from industrial, commercial, agricultural, and community operations, excluding earth or material from construction, mining, or demolition operations, or other waste materials of the type that normally would be included in demolition debris, nontoxic fly ash and bottom ash, . . . , and includes, but is not limited to, garbage, scrap tires, combustible and noncombustible material, street dirt, and debris. Solid waste does not include any material that is an infectious waste or a hazardous waste.

The final deposition of solid wastes on or into the ground at any place other than a solid waste facility operated in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, and Chapters 3745-27, 3745-29, 3745-30, and 3745-37 of the Administrative Code constitutes **open dumping**.

OAC Rule 3745-27-05(C) states, "No person shall conduct, permit, or allow open dumping. In the event that open dumping is occurring or has occurred at a property, the person(s) responsible for the open dumping, the owner of the property, or the person(s) who allow or allowed open dumping to occur, shall promptly remove and dispose or otherwise manage the solid waste in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, and shall submit verification that the solid waste has been properly managed."

The owner of the two identified properties above is in violation of the following rules and laws:

1. OAC Rule 3745-27-05(C):
No person shall conduct, permit, or allow open dumping. In the event that open dumping is occurring or has occurred at a property, the person(s) responsible for the open dumping, the owner of the property, or the person(s) who allow or allowed open dumping to occur, shall promptly remove and dispose or otherwise manage the solid waste in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, and shall submit verification that the solid waste has been properly managed.

Open dumping is defined in OAC Rule 3745-27-01(O)(4) as (in pertinent part):

"Open dumping" means the following: (a) The deposition of solid wastes, other than scrap tires, into waters of the state, and also means the final deposition of solid wastes on or into the ground at any place other than a solid waste facility operated in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, and Chapters 3745-27, 3745-29, 3745-30, and 3745-37 of the Administrative Code.

2. Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 3734.03:
No person shall dispose of solid waste by open burning or open dumping, except as authorized by the director of environmental protection in rules adopted in accordance with division (V) of section 3734.01, section 3734.02, or sections 3734.70 to 3734.73 of the Revised Code and except for burying or burning the body of a dead animal as authorized by section 941.14 of the Revised Code. No person shall dispose of treated or untreated infectious waste by open burning or open dumping.
3. OAC Rule 3745-27-02(A) (in pertinent part):
. . . no person shall establish or modify a solid waste facility. . . without obtaining a permit to install issued by the director . . .
4. ORC § 3734.02(C) (in pertinent part):
. . . no person shall establish a new solid waste facility, or modify an existing solid waste facility, without submitting an application for a permit with accompanying detail plans, specifications, and information regarding the facility and method of operation and receiving a permit issued by the director . . .

5. OAC Rule 3745-37-01(A) (in pertinent part):

No person shall conduct municipal solid waste landfill, industrial solid waste landfill, residual solid waste landfill, compost facility, transfer facility, infectious waste treatment facility, or solid waste incineration facility operations without possessing a separate, valid license for each such operation, as required by Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code and the Administrative Code rules adopted thereunder . . .

6. ORC § 3734.05(A)(1) (in pertinent part):

. . . no person shall operate or maintain a solid waste facility without a license issued under this division by the board of health of the health district in which the facility is located or by the director of environmental protection when the health district in which the facility is located is not on the approved list under section 3734.08 of the Revised Code . . .

Please ensure open dumping and open burning of solid waste ceases and will not occur at your property. Failure to comply with OAC Rule 3745-27 may result in escalated enforcement actions against you.

The owner/operator of the Site is in violation of the above rules and laws for establishing solid waste facility without the necessary permits and licenses and for conducting or allowing the open dumping of solid waste. These violations will continue until all solid waste open dumped at this site is removed and properly disposed at a solid waste facility.

Please respond within 14 days from receipt of this letter via letter or by contacting me at (419) 373-3079. Your written response can be sent to:

Ohio EPA - NWDO
Attn: Jeremy Scoles
347 N. Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

This correspondence addressed specific observations only for the areas of the property that were inspected. Nothing present in, nor absent from this correspondence is intended to mean that no other violations existed at the property at the time of inspection.

Compliance with the requirements outlined in this letter, or the solid and infectious waste provisions contained in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3734 and the rules promulgated thereunder, does not relieve you from your obligations to comply with other applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Scoles, SIT, CHMM
Environmental Specialist
Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

/csl

cc: File: Hardin County, Dump Sites: