



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

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

October 22, 2009

**Re: Belmont County
Open Burning
Complaint 30001114**

Mr. Joe Sampson
55770 Barnes Road
Martins Ferry, Ohio 43935

Dear Mr. Sampson:

I am writing this letter in response to a complaint received by this office on September 24, 2009. The complaint alleges that you open burn tires, building debris and plastics at your home.

On October 2, 2009, I investigated this complaint and spoke to you. You told me that you burn your trash and had burned some trees. As explained at that time, plastics, garbage, tires, etc., cannot be open burned in Ohio. To open burn residential waste such as paper, leaves, tree trimmings, etc., the fire must be located in an area that is at least 1,000 feet from your nearest neighbor. You indicated that you are going to cut up the remaining trees and use them for firewood. I gave you a pamphlet that explains Ohio's open burning rules.

Open burning of plastics and garbage at this location is in violation of Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 3745-19-04 and is punishable by a fine. All open burning in violation of the requirements specified in OAC rule 3745-19-04 must stop immediately. If you continue to open burn improper waste materials, legal action may be taken against you.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (740) 380-5217 or 1-800-686-7330.

Sincerely,

Lisa Duvall
Environmental Specialist
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/dh