



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

February 4, 2011

Re: Belmont County
Open Burning
Complaint 30001104

Certified: 70101060000178961719

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Stern
129 W. Barrister St.
Belmont, Ohio 43718

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Stern:

I am writing this letter in response to a complaint received by this office on January 4, 2011. The complaint alleges that you burned brush and trash on your property.

On January 10, 2011, I investigated this complaint and spoke to you, Mrs. Stern. Evidence of the open burning of trees, logs, tree trimmings, etc. was observed. You told me that Mr. Stern had burned some trees and brush from the property.

As I explained at that time, to open burn residential waste such as paper, leaves, tree trimmings, cardboard, etc., the property must be located in an unrestricted area (as this property is) and the burn site must be at least 1,000 feet from any inhabited building not on your property. There does not appear to be a burn site location on this property that is at least 1,000 feet from any inhabited building not on the property. If there is not a burn site location on this property that is at least 1,000 feet from any inhabited building not on the property, you cannot open burn residential waste at this location.

You are permitted to have a cookout or campfire using clean, seasoned firewood if the fire is not more than two feet in height and not more than three feet in diameter. The fire must be put out when the cookout/campfire is over and cannot be left unattended.

Open burning of wood wastes at this location without meeting the specified burn site distance requirement is in violation of Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 3745-19-04 and is punishable by a fine. I gave you a pamphlet that explains this rule during our visit. 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.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Duvall".

Lisa Duvall
Environmental Specialist
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/mlm