



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Southeast District Office**

2195 Front Street  
Logan, Ohio 43138

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

January 18, 2008

Re: Meigs County  
Open Burning  
Complaint 30000051

Certified: 70063450000190560358

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wheeler  
34265 State Route 681 East  
Albany, Ohio 45710

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler:

I am writing this letter in response to a complaint received by this office on December 24, 2007. The complaint alleges that residential waste is being open burned on your property located on State Route 124, Racine. It was also alleged that trash and plastics are being burned inside the residence in a wood burner.

On December 28, 2007 and January 8, 2008, I investigated this complaint. There was no one at the residence at the time of my investigation. A burn barrel was observed near the river. I left my business card and a pamphlet explaining Ohio's open burning regulations in the door for the individual residing at this location.

To open burn residential waste generated on the property, the property must be located in an unrestricted area and the fire must be at least 1,000 feet from the nearest neighbor. While the property is located in an unrestricted area, the burn barrel on your property is not 1,000 feet from the nearest neighbor. The burning of plastics, garbage, trash, etc. in a wood burner is also not permitted. Only clean dry wood or other suitable fuel may be used for heating purposes in a wood burner.

Open burning of this type is in violation of Ohio Administrative Code rule 3745-19-04 and is punishable by a fine. I am enclosing a copy of this rule for you. If you or the individual residing at this location continues to open burn improper waste materials on your property, legal action may be taken against both the resident and you as the property owners.

We will send a letter directly to the individual residing at this location; however, any assistance you could provide in resolving this matter would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 740-380-5217.

Sincerely,

Lisa Duvall  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/mlm

Enclosure