



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Southeast District Office**

2195 Front Street  
Logan, Ohio 43138

TELE: (740) 385-8501 FAX: (740) 385-6490  
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

May 30, 2008

Re: Muskingum County  
Open Burning  
Complaint 30000258

Certified: 70063450000190563748

Mr. Conrad Wilkens  
2505 Monnie Place  
Zanesville, Ohio 43701-9720

Dear Mr. Wilkens:

I am writing this letter in response to a complaint received by this office on May 2, 2008. The complaint alleges that you are open burning in a barrel at you home.

On May 13, 2008, I investigated this complaint. There was no one home at the time of my investigation. I left a pamphlet on your truck that explains Ohio's open burning rules. Evidence of the open burning of limbs and branches was observed in your backyard burn barrel. To open burn residential waste, such as tree trimmings, paper, cardboard, etc., the burn area must be at least 1,000 feet from your neighbors. There is not a location on your property that would be 1,000 feet from your neighbors. Therefore, you cannot open burn residential waste at this location.

On May 22, 2008, I spoke to Mrs. Wilkens by phone and explained Ohio's open burning rules. Mrs. Wilkens told me that you burn only limbs from your trees in the burn barrel. While you can have a campfire that meets the size and fuel (dry seasoned wood) requirements specified in the rule, open burning residential waste at this location is in violation of Ohio Administrative Code rule 3745-19-04 and is punishable by a fine. If you continue to open burn improper waste materials, legal action may be taken against you.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 740-380-5217.

Sincerely,

Lisa Duvall  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Air Pollution Control

LD/mlm