

Air Pollution Control Division

Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency
APC Contractual Representative
Serving All of Stark County

Canton City Health Department

420 Market Avenue North • Canton, Ohio • 44702-1544
(330) 489-3385 • Fax: (330) 489-3335

Terri A. Dzienis
APCD Administrator

James M. Adams, RS, MPH
Health Commissioner

August 24, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL

Kathleen Schweizer
4835 15th Street SW
Massillon, OH 44646

**Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 3745-19-03;
unauthorized illegal open burning in a restricted area; First Violation**

The Canton City Health Department, Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) represents the Ohio EPA in air quality matters within Stark County. As such, APCD employees have the authority to investigate and enforce Ohio EPA air pollution regulations.

On Thursday, August 16, 2012, Perry Township Fire Department was at your address to investigate unauthorized burning. Since this property is located in what the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-19-01(K) defines as a restricted area, OAC 3745-19-03(B) allows the following without notification to or permission from the Ohio EPA; bonfires, campfires and outdoor fireplace equipment, whether for cooking food for human consumption, pleasure, religious, ceremonial, warmth, recreational, or similar purposes, if the following conditions are met:

- (a) They are fueled with clean, seasoned firewood, natural gas or equivalent, or any clean burning fuel with emissions that are equivalent to or lower than those created from the burning of seasoned firewood;
- (b) They are not used for waste disposal purposes; and
- (c) They shall have a total fuel area of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height.

On Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at approximately 10:20 a.m., I visited this address. Since no one was home, I left my business card in the front door and observed the burn area, which contained pieces of burnt metal and partially melted glass bottles. Tree limbs approximately 15 feet above the fire pit are scorched. Photographs were taken during my inspection and are attached for your review. Since these items do not constitute 'clean, seasoned firewood,' the fire was being used for waste disposal purposes, and the fire was greater than two feet in height to cause scorching of the tree limbs above it, this is a violation of OAC 3745-19-03(B). I am enclosing a copy of OAC Rule 3745-19-03 for your reference.

Schweizer
August 24, 2012
Page 2 of 2

Burning household waste produces many toxic chemicals and is one of the largest known sources of dioxin in the nation. Other air pollutants from open burning include particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, lead and mercury. These pollutants have been linked to several health problems, including asthma, respiratory illnesses, nervous system damage, kidney and liver damage, and reproductive or developmental disorders.

This agency requests your cooperation by ceasing any open burning in violation of Ohio EPA regulations. Be advised that the Ohio EPA does have the authority to penalize fines of up to \$250 per day to citizens for open burning violations, and does have the authority to request the attorney general to initiate legal action to seek additional penalties of up to \$25,000. Since this is the first violation at this property, we will not take further action at this time. Any future violation will result in penalties.

Sincerely,



Linda Morckel
Monitoring & Inspections Technician, Air Pollution Control

Enclosure: OAC 3745-19-03, photo documentation

cc: Perry Township Fire Department, 440 Canford Avenue, Massillon, OH 44646
Correspondence
Complaints File, Open Burning, Perry Township
Bruce Weinberg, Ohio EPA, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049



4835 15th Street SW, Massillon, OH 44646. The photographs were acquired by APC Monitoring & Inspections Technician, Linda Morckel on 8/21/2012 at 10:20 a.m. They show open burning for residential waste disposal and scorched tree on property.

