

Air Pollution Control Division

Canton City Health Department

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James M. Adams, R.S., MPH
Health Commissioner

Daniel J. Aleman, M.S., PE
APCD Administrator

Ms. Darlene Lenardos
4921 Piccadilly ST SW
Canton, OH 44706

COPY

Monday, May 18 2009

First-Class Mail
Stark County
Perry Township

Re: Information provided on the Ohio Administrative Code 3745-19-03; Unauthorized illegal open burning in a restricted area.

Dear Ms. Lenardos:

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 are charged with the responsibility of investigating and enforcing Ohio EPA (OEPA) air pollution regulations. APCD employees are authorized under Ohio Revised Code 3704.03 (L) to enter upon private property to determine if there is noncompliance with OEPA regulations.

On Friday, May 14th, 2009, I inspected the residential property at 4921 Piccadilly ST SW for possible illegal open burning, in Perry Township of Stark County. I have included with this letter, the Ohio EPA Open Burning Regulations.

Since this residential property is located in what the Ohio Administrative Code 3745-19-01 (J) defines as a restricted area, according to The Ohio Administrative Code, 3745-19-03 (B): open burning shall be allowed for the following purposes 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:

- 1. They are fueled with clean seasoned natural 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;*
- 2. They are not used for waste disposal purposes; and*
- 3. They shall have a total fuel area of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height.*

According to the Ohio EPA; open burning can release many kinds of toxic fumes. Leaves and plant materials send aloft millions of spores when they catch fire, causing many people with allergies to have difficulty breathing. The pollutants released by open burning also make it more difficult to meet health-based air quality standards, especially in or near large cities. The gases released by open burning can also corrode metal siding and damage paint on buildings. 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.

The state law referenced in this letter issued by this Agency is OAC 3745-19-03 which is authorized by The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3704.03 (*Powers of director of environmental protection*). ORC 3704.05; (*Prohibited acts*) is the rule that would be utilized by the law department to seek a penalty by ORC 3704.99 (*Penalties*) of a fine not more than \$25,000.00 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both, for each violation. Each day the violation continues after a conviction for a violation is a separate offense.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the open burning regulations, please contact me at 330.489.3385.

Regards,



Denny Tan

Staff Field Inspector II
Air Pollution Control Division
Canton City Health Department

Enc:

- 1) US EPA "The Hidden Hazards of Backyard Burning"
- 2) OAC 3745-19-03

Pc:

- 1) Open burn file; and
- 2) NOV Correspondence file, May 2009.

DT / dt