

**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

Re: Wood County
Open Burning Complaint
**Notice of Violation (NOV) &
Return to Compliance (RTC)**

September 17, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Tom Oberhouse
North Branch Nursery
P.O. Box 353
3359 Kessen Road
Pemberville, Ohio 43450

Dear Mr. Oberhouse:

This office received a complaint on September 7, 2012, concerning open burning being conducted on your property. My investigation, conducted on September 12, 2012, shows various landscape wastes generated from the nursery were burned in two separate locations on the property, both of which are within 1000' of adjacent inhabited structures and located in a restricted area.

Based on these findings, there is sufficient evidence to determine that illegal open burning did occur and the complaint is justified. This is a violation of both Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 3745-19-03(A) and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3704.05.

A copy of the OAC rules pertaining to open burning has been enclosed for your review. Please provide a written response acknowledging your receipt of this letter and your understanding of the rules. If you do not understand the rules please contact this office for additional explanation before responding. Your response is requested no later than October 1, 2012.

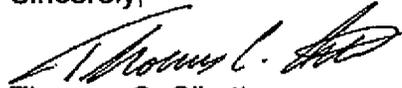
Because the fire has been extinguished, you are no longer in violation and the property is considered to have returned to compliance.

Please be advised that the submission of information to respond to this letter does not constitute waiver of the Ohio EPA's authority to seek civil penalties pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3704.06. The Ohio EPA will make a decision whether to pursue such penalties regarding this matter at a later date. The decision on whether to pursue or decline to pursue such penalties regarding this matter is dependent on several factors, one of which is your future compliance with applicable Ohio EPA requirements.

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If you have any questions concerning this letter or the regulations, please feel free to call me at (419) 373-3137 or e-mail at thomas.cikotte@epa.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,



Thomas C. Cikotte
Division of Air Pollution Control

/cg

Enclosures

pc: Wood County Health Dept.
Thomas C. Cikotte, DAPC – NWDO
Certified Mail Receipt Number 70091410000118345956

ec: William MacDowell, U.S. EPA Region V
Bruce Weinberg, DAPC - CO
Tom Sattler, DAPC - NWDO
Thomas C. Cikotte, DAPC – NWDO