



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
KNOXVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFICE
3711 MIDDLEBROOK PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37921-6538
PHONE (865) 594-6035 STATEWIDE 1-888-891-8332 FAX (865) 594-6105

OUTREACH LETTER

April 4, 2024

James A. Moore
130 Creek Road
Powell, TN 37849

RE: Complaint of Prohibited Open Burning
Site ID 180549, Complaint 131179

Dear Mr. Moore,

On March 27, 2024, the Division of Air Pollution Control received a complaint of prohibited open burning located at 130 Creek Road (Map 102, Parcel 151.02) in Anderson County. On March 27, 2024, I attempted but was unable to investigate the complaint due to the restricted access to the property. Thus, we do not know if any prohibited open burning occurred on your property. Also, not all instances of open burning are necessarily prohibited. Please contact me within 5 business days of receiving this letter by calling the phone number listed at the end.

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of the following:

Open burning emits large quantities of toxic pollutants into the air with minimal atmospheric dispersion, which can seriously interfere with air quality and negatively impact human health. With limited exceptions, it is unlawful for any person to cause, suffer, allow or permit open burning in the state of Tennessee.

Tennessee Air Pollution Control Regulations (TAPCR) 1200-03-04-.03(1) states that, "No person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit open burning except as specifically exempted by Rule 1200-03-04-.04 EXCEPTIONS TO PROHIBITION."

Furthermore, TAPCR 1200-03-04-.03(4), states that, "The open burning of tires and other rubber products, vinyl shingles and siding, other plastics, asphalt shingles and other asphalt roofing materials, and/or asbestos containing materials is expressly prohibited, and such materials shall

not be included in any open burning conducted under the provisions of Rule 1200-03-04-.04 EXCEPTIONS TO PROHIBITION.”

There are instances when open burning is allowed in the state of Tennessee. For example, fires used for the cooking of food or for ceremonial, recreational or comfort-heating purposes, including barbecues, campfires, and outdoor fireplaces, are allowed. Additionally, open burning of vegetation grown on the same property as the burn site is allowed, and open burning of untreated wood waste is allowed provided certain legal requirements are met. Please see attached open burning rule. However, please be aware that a Safe Debris Burning Permit may be required by the Division of Forestry within the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. For additional information regarding the Safe Debris Burning Permit visit www.burnsafetn.org. You should also contact the authorities in your area to determine whether there are any local requirements or restrictions on burning.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining the air quality in Tennessee. If further clarification is needed, feel free to contact me at **865-594-5613** or by email at Samuel.Barnett@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Barnett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sam Barnett
Inspector
Division of Air Pollution Control
Knoxville Environmental Field Office

Enclosures:
Learn Before You Burn Pamphlet
Open Burning Rule
Guidelines for Open Burning Wood Waste and Vegetation