



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

Southeast Regional Office • 820 Sweet Street • Brownstown, IN 47220-9557

(877) 271-0074 • (812) 358-2027 • Fax (812) 358-2058 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess
Commissioner

August 6, 2024

VIA USPS MAIL

Mr. & Mrs. George M. Balich
557 E. Burdick Road
Chesterton, IN 46304

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Balich:

Re: **Inspection Summary Letter**
557 E. Burdick Road
Complaint #111947
Chesterton, Porter County

On July 25, 2024, a representative of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Land Quality, conducted an inspection of the above-referenced property, located at 557 E. Burdick Road, in Chesterton, Indiana. This inspection was conducted pursuant to IC 13-14-2-2. For your information, and in accordance with IC 13-14-5, a summary of the inspection is provided below:

Type of Inspection:	Follow-Up
Results of Inspection:	No violations were observed (see attached inspection report).


Please direct any questions regarding this letter to Cheryl Wiseman, 219-781-8557 or cwiseman@idem.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Amick, Director

Enclosure

cc: Porter County Health Department, carrie.gschwind@porterco.org
Porter County Recycling & Waste Reduction District, kbarron@portercountyrecycling.org

	REPORT OF OPEN DUMP INSPECTION State Form 42033 (r2/2-00)	Inspector Name: Cheryl Wiseman Inspector Phone: 219-781-8557
	Indiana Department of Environmental Management Solid Waste Compliance Section Office of Land Quality 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N-1101 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251	Inspection Date: 7/25/2024 Time In: 1:40 pm Time Out: 2:10 pm

GENERAL INFORMATION		
Name of registration or Tempo (RM): Complaint #111947	Location: 557 E. Burdick Road, Chesterton, IN 46304	County: Porter
INX #: 000068664, AI #133979	Parcel ID #: 64-04-35-451-008.000-010	Parcel Acreage: Unknown

PROPERTY OWNER(S)	
Name(s) of property owner(s) and/or Company: Mr. & Mrs. George M. & Ina F. Balich	
Address (number, city, state, and zip code): 557 E. Burdick Road, Chesterton, IN 46304	
Email Address: Unknown	Telephone #: Unknown

RESPONSIBLE PARTY(IES)	
Name(s) of property owner(s) and/or Company: Same as above	
Address (number, city, state, and zip code): Same as above	
Email Address: Unknown	Telephone #: Unknown

ACREAGE			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 020	Less Than ¼ Acre	<input type="checkbox"/> 021	Between ¼ Acre & 1 Acre
<input type="checkbox"/> 022	Greater than 1 Acre		

SOLID WASTE OBSERVED			
<input type="checkbox"/> 001	Tires	<input type="checkbox"/> 002	PCB's
<input type="checkbox"/> 003	Household Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 004	Asbestos
<input type="checkbox"/> 005		<input type="checkbox"/> 006	Construction/Demolition Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> 007	Bulky Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 008	Other Waste

ACTIVE CONDITIONS			
<input type="checkbox"/> 015	Strong Odor	<input type="checkbox"/> 016	Waste Paper Dated Post Last Inspection
<input type="checkbox"/> 017	Vectors	<input type="checkbox"/> 018	Putrescible Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> 019	Other Evidence of Recent Dumping		

PARAMETERS OBSERVED			
<input type="checkbox"/> 009	Evidence of Burning	<input type="checkbox"/> 010	Waste in Water/Wetland
<input type="checkbox"/> 011	Waste in Suspected Floodway	<input type="checkbox"/> 012	Residence within 600 feet of Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> 013	Access Unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> 014	Permission Given to Dump

GENERAL INFORMATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> 023	Pictures Taken	<input type="checkbox"/> 038	Initial Inspection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 039	Follow-Up Inspection		

REFERRALS			
<input type="checkbox"/> 027	Air Management	<input type="checkbox"/> 028	Emergency Response
<input type="checkbox"/> 029	Water management	<input type="checkbox"/> 030	Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> 031	Hazardous Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 032	Dept. of Natural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> 034	Co. Health Dept./Solid Waste Mgmt District		

COMPLIANCE ACTION NEEDED			
<input type="checkbox"/> 024	Remove waste to approved solid waste management facility	<input type="checkbox"/> 025	As specified below
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 026	No Action Needed (In Compliance)		

Background Information:

An inspection was performed on April 30, 2024, at 557 E. Burdick Road in Chesterton, Indiana, in response to an anonymous complaint, #111947, alleging the open dumping of asbestos and lead paint, and the burning of building materials, at the on-site residence. According to the Porter County Assessor's website, the property is listed as parcel #64-04-35-451-008.000-010, and as being owned by Mr. & Mrs. George M. and Ina F. Balich.

On April 30, 2024, this inspector drove to the property and observed a residential home that appeared to be in various stages of renovation. In the back yard, I observed three piles of plywood and lumber in various stages of decay that appeared to contain old plywood, lumber, pressed wood, pieces of tarps and carpeting, siding, plastic wrap, metal fencing and a toilet. Due to the extensive age of the home, some of the discarded items may contain asbestos and / or lead-based paint.

During the inspection on April 30, 2024, Ms. Abigail Balich, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Balich, arrived on-site and informed this inspector that the piles of wood and debris are from the renovation taking place at the home. I informed Ms. Balich that if the construction and renovation materials are discarded and left to decay in the yard, and mixed with trash, they are solid classified as solid waste and therefore properly disposed. The following violations were cited, and a violation letter was sent to Mr. & Mrs. Balich.

Inspection Report:

On July 25, 2024, a follow-up inspection was performed. I met Ms. Abigail Balich at the site, and we walked to the back of the property where the three piles of plywood, lumber, carpeting, siding, plastic wrap, and a toilet were previously observed. During today's inspection, I noted that the trash and debris had been removed from the back yard, and the only items remaining were pieces of wood and lumber planned for repurposing during the home renovation project. I noted no solid waste violations with the items and areas inspected today.

The complaint also alleged the burning of various building materials at the property. Ms. Thalia Hobson, IDEM Air Quality Inspector, previously performed an inspection at the site and addressed any open burning issues under a separate cover.

Confidential Information

In accordance with 329 IAC 6.1 (<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03290/A00061.PDF>) a person submitting information to the department for which confidential treatment is requested shall make a written claim of confidentiality at the time of submittal of the information. A person may request confidential treatment of information at the time the information is acquired through the actions of the department, such as inspections. The written claim for confidential treatment may be broad, but must be sufficiently clear to allow for accurate identification of the information claimed to be confidential. In accordance with 329 IAC 6.1-4-1(d), supporting information must be submitted to the commissioner within five (5) working days from the time the information claimed as confidential is acquired by the department. A person submitting a claim of confidentiality shall designate and segregate the information and the supporting information to which the claim applies in a manner that is sufficiently clear to allow the department to identify all confidential claim materials. Confidential information may include (but is not limited to) written or printed material, maps, charts, photographs, or samples (see definition of information at 329 IAC 6.1-2-8). The undersigned Owner/Representative has alleged information acquired during this inspection ☐ does ☒ does not (check one) contain confidential information. A check in the "does" box is not a written claim for confidential treatment of information acquired during this inspection.

Notice of Oral Report

In accordance with IC 13-14-5 an oral report of the inspection was provided to the undersigned Owner/Agent at the conclusion of the inspection. The oral report includes any specific matters discovered during the inspection that the IDEM representative believes may be a violation of a law or of a permit issued by the department. The report does not include matters not evident to the IDEM representative or any fact that indicates an intentional, a knowing, or a reckless violation.

Received by: Needs to be mailed to Mr. & Mrs. George M. Balich, and emailed to the Porter County Health Department, and the Porter County Recycling & Waste Reduction District.

E-mail Address: carrie.gschwind@porterco.org and kbarron@portercountyrecycling.org

Date Emailed by Inspector: Click here to enter a date.

☒ Needs Mailed