



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

Northwest Regional Office • 330 W. US Highway 30, Suite F • Valparaiso, IN 46385

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Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess  
Commissioner

June 26, 2024

VIA US POSTAL SERVICE

Robert and Shelly Shulte  
P.O. Box 109  
Kouts, IN 46347

Re: Open Burning Warning Letter  
Wanatah, LaPorte County

Dear Robert and Shelly Shulte:

On June 25, 2024, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Northwest Regional Office (NWRO), received a complaint alleging that open burning in violation of 326 IAC 4-1 has been conducted by you or on your property located at 14988 S. 1050 W. in Wanatah, Indiana. A copy of the open burning rule, 326 IAC 4-1, is enclosed.

Please be aware, 326 IAC 4-1 prohibits open burning with only a few exceptions. Specifically, the burning of material for disposal purposes, such as trash, rubbish, and garbage is not allowed under this rule. IDEM has not confirmed that a violation of the open burning rule has occurred at this time. However, if a violation is observed after the receipt of this letter, legal action may be pursued.

Please direct any questions to Thalia Hobson, Compliance Inspector, at (219) 252-5989 or by email at [thobson@idem.IN.gov](mailto:thobson@idem.IN.gov). Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles Breitenfeldt, Deputy Director  
Northwest Regional Office

ACES ID: 298721, 298754  
RM ID: 113091

ENCLOSURE

cc: LaPorte County Health Department