

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**COUNTY OF LASALLE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION**

COUNTY OF LASALLE

Complainant

v.

JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER

Respondent(s)

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AC NO.

**JURISDICTION**

This Administrative Citation is issued pursuant to authority vested in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency by 415 ILCS 5/31.1, formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, Ch. 111 ½, par. 1031.1, and delegated to the County of LaSalle pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/4 (r), formerly Ill. Rev. Stat., Ch. 111 ½, par. 1004 (r).

**FACTS**

1. That Respondent, JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER, is the present owner of the property located in Mission Township, LaSalle County, Illinois.
2. That said facility is an open burn and open dump site, operating without an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Permit, and is designated with Site Code No. 0998215025. The said facility is commonly known to the Agency as the Harper Property.
3. That the Respondent has owned and operated said facility since at least 2001.
4. That on July 03, 2025, Lauren Grumieaux and Emma Gerkitz, of the LaSalle County Department of Land Use, under the authority of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, inspected the above-described facility. A copy of the inspection reports setting forth the results of such inspections is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

5. On the basis of direct observations of Lauren Grumieaux and Emma Gerkitz of the LaSalle County Department of Land Use, it has been determined that the Respondents have caused or allowed open dumping at the above-described facility in a manner which results in the following occurrences:

That on July 03, 2025, an on-site inspection of said facility disclosed the following:

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| XXX | Causing or allowing litter -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (1), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1021 (p) (1) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (1)]).  |
|     | Causing or allowing scavenging operations -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (2), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 102 (p) (2) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (2)]).  |
| XXX | Causing or allowing open burning -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (3), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1021(p) (3) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (3)]).   |
|     | Causing or allowing the deposition of waste in standing or flowing waters -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (4), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1021 (p) (4) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (4)]).                         |
|     | Causing or allowing proliferation of disease vectors -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (5), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1021(p) (5) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (5)]).   |
|     | Causing or allowing the generation of standing or flowing liquid discharge from the open dump site -- 415 ILCS 5/21 (p) (6), (formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1021(p) (6) [formerly par. 1021 (q) (6)]). |
| XXX | Causing or allowing the deposition of general construction or demolition debris, or clean construction or demolition debris in violation of 415 ILCS 5/21(p)(7).  |

#### CIVIL PENALTY

6. Pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/42 (b) (4), formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 111 ½, par. 1042 (b) (4), Respondent herein is subject to a civil penalty of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1500.00) for each violation specified above in Paragraph 5(b) for a total of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4500.00). Additionally, should Respondents elect to petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board under the review process described herein below, and if there is a finding of the violation alleged herein, after an adjudicatory hearing, Respondents shall be assessed the associated hearing costs incurred by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board, in addition to the Fifteen Hundred Dollar (\$1500.00) statutory penalty for each finding of violation.
7. If you acknowledge the violations cited herein above, the civil penalty specified above shall be due and payable no later than thirty-five (35) days from the date of service hereof. If you do not petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board of review of this Administrative Citation within thirty-five (35) days of service hereof or if you elect to contest this Administrative Citation, any judgment rendered against you shall specify the due date of the statutory civil penalty and any costs assessed against you.
8. When payment is made, one certified check or money order for (\$2,250.00) shall be made payable to the **LaSalle County Treasurer** and mailed to:

**LaSalle County Department of Land Use  
119 West Madison Street  
Room 107a  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350**

And one certified check or money order for (\$2,250.00) shall be made payable to the **Illinois Environmental Protection Trust** and mailed to:

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Attn.: Fiscal Services Division  
PO Box 19276  
2520 W Iles Avenue  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276**

Also, please complete and return the enclosed Remittance Form, along with your payment, to assure proper documentation of payment.

9. If any civil penalty imposed by the Illinois Pollution Control Board is not paid within the time prescribed in the order, interest from such penalty will be assessed for the period from the date payment is due until the date payment is received. If any civil penalty, by reason of acknowledgment, default, or finding after the adjudicatory hearing is not paid when due, the LaSalle County State's Attorney may initiate proceedings in Circuit Court to collect said civil penalty. In addition to the previously assessed civil penalty, interest and hearing costs of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, if any, the State's Attorney's Office will seek to recover their costs of litigation.

**PROCEDURE FOR CONTESTING THIS**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION**

10. You have the right to contest this Administrative Citation. See: 415 ILCS 5/31.1, formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, Ch. 111 ½, par. 1031.1. If you elect to contest this Administrative Citation, you must file a Petition for Review with the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Copies of the Petition for Review should also be filed with:

Jeremiah Adams  
LaSalle County Assistant State's Attorney  
707 Etna Road  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

LaSalle County Department of Land Use  
119 West Madison Street  
Room 107  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Such Petition for Review must be filed within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service of this Administrative Citation, or a default judgment shall be entered by the Pollution Control Board. Petition for Review may be filed with the:

Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board  
60 E. Van Buren St., Ste. 630  
Chicago, IL 60605

Dated:

8/11/25

Joseph R. Navarro  
LaSalle County State's Attorney

By: 

Jeremiah Adams  
Assistant State's Attorney

**BEFORE THE  
ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

COUNTY OF LASALLE

Complainant

v.

JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER

Respondent(s)

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AC NO.

**REMITTANCE FORM**

**FACILITY:**

Jody D. & Zara R. Harper  
2885 E IL St. RT. 52  
Sheridan, IL 60551

Site Code:0998215025  
County: LaSalle  
Township: Mission

**CIVIL PENALTY:**

\$1500.0 for each violation

Number of Violation(s):

Three (3)

Total Remittance:

\$2,250.00 (50% of \$4,500.00 penalty to IEPA)

Date of Inspection:

July 03, 2025

DATE REMITTED:

\_\_\_\_\_

SS/FEIN NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURES

\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE**

Please enter the date of your remittance, your social security number(s) (SS) if an individual or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) if a corporation, and sign this Remittance Form. Be sure your certified check or money order is enclosed, and mail, along with Remittance Form to:

**LaSalle County Department of Land Use  
119 West Madison Street, Room 107a  
Ottawa, IL 61350**



## INFORMATIONAL NOTICE !!!

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS

**NOTE: This Administrative Citation Refers to One State Agency and Two County Entities**

**The One State Agency Is:**

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
60 E Van Buren St. Ste. 630  
Chicago, IL 60605

**The Two County Entities Are:**

LASALLE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY OFFICE  
ATTENTION: JEREMIAH ADAMS  
707 ETNA ROAD  
OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350

LASALLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE  
119 WEST MADISON STREET  
ROOM 107A  
OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350

If you elect to contest the enclosed **ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION**, you must file a **PETITION FOR REVIEW** within thirty-five (35) days of the date the **ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION** was served upon you. Any such **PETITION FOR REVIEW** must be filed with the **CLERK OF THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** by either hand-delivering or mailing the **PETITION FOR REVIEW** to the **CLERK OF THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** at the address given above. A copy of the **PETITION FOR REVIEW** should be either hand-delivered or mailed to the **LASALLE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, ATTENTION: JEREMIAH ADAMS** at the address given above. Also, a copy of the **PETITION FOR REVIEW** should be either hand-delivered or mailed to the **LASALLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE** at the address given above.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF LASALLE

COUNTY OF LASALLE

Complainant

v.

JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER

Respondent(s)

AC NO.

AFFIDAVIT

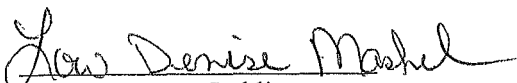
Affiants, Lauren Grumieaux and Emma Gerkitz, being first duly sworn, voluntarily deposes and states as follows:

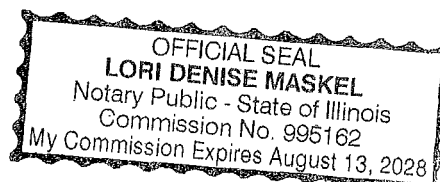
1. Affiants are employed by the County of LaSalle and have been so employed at all times pertinent hereto.
2. On July 03, 2025, between 03:05 p.m. and 03:20 p.m., Affiants conducted inspections of an open burn and open dump site operating without an Agency permit, located in LaSalle County, Illinois, and known as the Harper Property, by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The said site has been assigned site code number 0998215025 by the Agency.
3. Affiant inspected the said Mission Township / Harper Property, open dump site by an on-site inspection, which included conducting a visual inspection and photographing the site.
4. As a result of the material actions referred to in paragraph 3 above, Affiants completed the Inspection Report Forms attached hereto and made a part hereof, which, to the best of Affiants knowledge and belief, is an accurate representation of Affiants observations and factual conclusions with respect to said Mission Township / Harper Property, open burn and open dump site.

  
Lauren Grumieaux, LaSalle County

  
Emma Gerkitz, LaSalle County

Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D. 2025.

  
Notary Public



COUNTY OF LASALLE )

Complainant )

v. )

JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER )

Respondent(s) )

Facility# 0998215025  
Facility Name: Harper Property

**WARNING: CORRECTIVE ACTION REQUIRED**

To contest the Administrative Citation you have received you must follow the instructions provided in the Administrative Citation. You may be served with additional Administrative Citations if you fail to complete the following corrective actions, and are found to be in violation of the [Illinois] Environmental Protection Act. Additional inspection(s) will be conducted to verify cleanup and compliance.

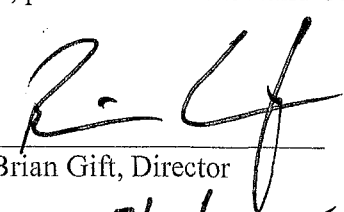
**YOU MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

1. Immediately cease all open dumping and open burning.
2. Within 90 days from the date of this Administrative Citation, remove all debris/garbage to a permitted landfill or transfer station.
3. Within 90 days from the date of this Administrative Citation, submit to the LCESLU copies of receipts that document the proper disposal or recycling of all wastes.
4. Within 90 days from the date of this Administrative Citation, remove all used or waste tires to registered tire storage or tire disposal facility. Used or waste tires cannot be taken to a landfill or transfer station for the purpose of disposal. Do not open burn any of the tires. Loads of more than 20 tires must hauled by a registered tire transporter
5. Within 90 days from the date of this Administrative Citation, remove all white goods (i.e., large appliances) to a facility that can legitimately accept them for recycling. White goods cannot be taken to a landfill or transfer station for the purpose of disposal.

Any written response submitted in reply to the corrective action requirements of this notice must be sent to:

On any correspondence you send concerning this matter, please reference the IEPA designated facility number and facility name listed on the first page of this notice.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice or need further assistance, please contact the Land Use office at 815-434-8666.

  
Brian Gift, Director

Date: 8/11/2025



**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency****Open Dump Inspection Checklist**

County: LaSalle BOL #: 0998215025 Region: 1 - Rockford

Site Name: Harper Property

Site Address: 2885 E US HWY 52 City: Sheridan

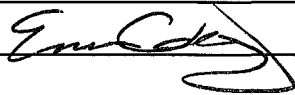
Inspector: L. Grumieaux, E. Gerkitz Interviewed: Terry Harper

Date: 07/03/2025 Current Est. 100 yds<sup>3</sup>

Complaint #: Waste Amt.

Responsible Party	Jody D. & Zara R. Harper	Jody D. & Zara R. Harper
Mailing Address(es)	2885 E IL ST RT 52	3196 State HWY 13
and Phone Number(s):	Sheridan, IL 60551	Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Section	Description	Status
<b>Illinois Environmental Protection Act Requirements</b>		
<b>9(a)</b>	Cause, threaten, or allow air pollution in Illinois	V
<b>9(c)</b>	Cause or allow open burning	V
<b>12(a)</b>	Cause, threaten, or allow water pollution in Illinois	
<b>12(d)</b>	Create a water pollution hazard	
<b>21(a)</b>	Cause or allow open dumping	V
<b>21(d)</b>	Conduct any waste-storage, waste-treatment, or waste- disposal operation:	
(1)	Without a permit	V
(2)	In violation of any regulations or standards adopted by the Board	
<b>21(e)</b>	Dispose, treat, store, or abandon waste, or transport waste into Illinois for such activities, except at a site meeting Act and regulatory requirements	V
<b>21(p)</b>	Cause or allow the open dumping of any waste in a manner which results in any of the following occurrences at the dump site:	
(1)	Litter	V
(2)	Scavenging	
(3)	Open Burning	V
(4)	Deposition of waste in standing or flowing waters	
(5)	Proliferation of disease vectors	
(6)	Standing or flowing liquid discharge from the dump site	
(7)	Deposition of general construction or demolition debris as defined at §3.160(a) or clean construction or demolition debris as defined at §3.160(b)	V
<b>55(a)</b>	No person shall	
(1)	Cause or allow open dumping of any used or waste tire	V
(2)	Cause or allow open burning of any used or waste tire	V

<b>55(k)</b>	No person shall	
(1)	Cause or allow water to accumulate in used or waste tires	V
(4)	Transport used or waste tires in violation of the registration and placarding requirements	
<b>Consumer Electronic Recycling Act (415 ILCS 151) Requirements</b>		
<b>83(c)</b>	No person may knowingly cause or allow the mixing of a CED or other listed device with waste that is intended for disposal by burning or incineration	
<b>83(d)</b>	No person may knowingly cause or allow the burning or incineration of a CED or other listed device	
<b>35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle G Requirements</b>		
<b>722.111</b>	Hazardous waste determination	
<b>808.121</b>	Special waste determination	
<b>809.302(a)</b>	Acceptance of special waste from a waste transporter without a waste hauling permit and manifest	
<b>812.101(a)</b>	Application submitted for permit to develop and operate landfill	
<b>Other Requirements</b>		
Apparent violation of: <input type="checkbox"/> PCB order <input type="checkbox"/> Circuit Court order Case Number ; Order entered on		NA
Other		

Notes

1. Key to Status: V=Violated; C=Continuing violation from previous evaluation; V/C=Newly violated and continuing from previous evaluation; V/R=Violated and resolved during same inspection; R=Resolved violation; NA=Not applicable at the time of the inspection; NE=Not evaluated at the time of the inspection
2. The provisions of §§21(o)–(p) and §55(k) of the Environmental Protection Act are enforceable either by administrative citation under §31.1 or by complaint under §31. Violations of the Consumer Electronic Recycling Act are enforceable by administrative citation under §1-55(a) or referral to the Attorney General pursuant to §1-50(b).
3. This inspection was conducted in accordance with §§4(c)–(d) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/4(c) and (d)).

0998215025-LaSalle County  
Mission Twp./Harper Property

## NARRATIVE INSPECTION REPORT DOCUMENT

### GENERAL REMARKS

On July 03, 2025, an open dumping inspection was conducted at 2885 E IL ST. RT. 52, Sheridan by Ms. Lauren Grumieaux and Ms. Emma Gerkitz, representing the LaSalle County Land Use Department, under the delegation authority of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The property is owned by Jody D. & Zara R. Harper, the children of the deceased Donald B. Harper Jr.

On March 26, 2025, an inspection was conducted in response to a complaint made on March 17, 2025, about possible dumping of engine fluids at Harper's Used Cars. The property had recently experienced a fatal fire. The family of the deceased is currently cleaning the property in preparation for sale. Dumpsters were on site, and about half of the cars, tires, and scrap have been removed. No signs of oil dumping were observed in the area. Barrels and tanks of oil and gas were on-site.

On June 30, 2025, Ms. Grumieaux and I visited again to check on the cleanup. Substantial progress had been made, with approximately one-quarter of the waste still remaining.

On July 03, 2025, the weather was sunny and 87°F. Winds were WSW at 3 mph.

Ms. Grumieaux and I arrived at the site at 03:05 p.m. and began the inspection.

Upon arrival, Ms. Grumieaux and I viewed a substantial burn pile actively burning, visible from the road. After pulling into the driveway, we made contact with Terry Harper. Ms. Grumieaux immediately requested that Ms. Harper cease all burning activities.

Facing east, I observed and documented large flames and thick black smoke emitting from the burn pile. (Photo #1) Throughout the conversation, Ms. Grumieaux suggested that the fire department be called to safely put the fire out. Upon closer inspection, we identified and documented burning materials, including tires, a roof structure, and other demolition debris remaining from the former shop. (Photo #2)

Continuing east, I documented additional scattered waste throughout the adjacent overgrown area, including more tires and demolition debris, connecting to the burn pile. (Photo #3 & #4) Facing southeast, the barrels previously recorded and previously observed to contain gas and oil, remained on site and were located near the active burn pile. (Photo #5)

Throughout the inspection, Ms. Grumieaux instructed that the burn pile be fully extinguished and all debris properly disposed of at a permitted landfill/facility. All disposal receipts are to be submitted as proof of proper waste and tire disposal. Ms. Harper stated she would contact the fire department to extinguish the fire. Looking north, I documented a separate pile of waste, tires, demolition debris, and other miscellaneous materials. (Photo #6) Ms. Grumieaux requested that the pile be removed and properly disposed of at a landfill. After documenting our findings, we concluded the inspection at 3:20 PM.

**Apparent violations noted:**

**Illinois Environmental Protection Act:**

9 (a) (c), 21 (a), 21(d) 1, 21(e), 21(p) 1, 3, 7, 55 (a) 1, 2, and 55(k) 1

END OF NARRATIVE BY EMMA GERKITZ

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SITE SKETCH

Date of Inspection: 7.3.2025 Inspector (s): L. Grumiaux, E. Gerkitz  
Site Code: 0998215025 County: LASALLE  
Site Name: Harper Property Time: 3:05 - 3:20

N↑







## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Harper Property 0998215025



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:07 PM  
Direction: East  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 1  
Comments: Burn  
pile.



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:14 PM  
Direction: South  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 2  
Comments:  
Demolition debris,  
fire.





## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Harper Property 0998215025



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:14 PM  
Direction: South  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 3  
Comments:  
Demolition debris.



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:15 PM  
Direction: South  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 4  
Comments: Tires  
and additional  
debris.





## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Harper Property 0998215025



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:15 PM  
Direction: Southeast  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 5  
Comments: Barrels  
and tank, other  
waste debris.



Date: 07/03/2025  
Time: 3:15 PM  
Direction: North  
Photo by:  
L. Grumieaux  
Exposure #: 6  
Comments: Waste  
pile, tires,  
demolition debris,  
other materials.



**BEFORE THE  
ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

COUNTY OF LASALLE

Complainant

v.

JODY D. & ZARA R. HARPER

Respondent(s)

AC NO.

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

The undersigned, after being first duly placed on oath, voluntarily deposes and states that he personally served the attached LaSalle County Administrative Citation, Informational Notice, Remittance Form, together with correct copies of the attached Inspector's Affidavit, the Inspection Report Form with attachments upon the following named person(s):

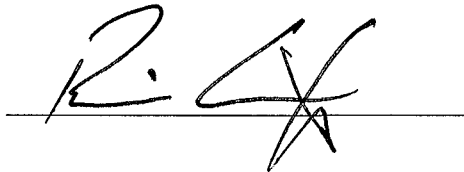
Jody D. & Zara R. Harper  
3196 State Hwy 13  
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

or upon an authorized agent of such person(s) for the purpose of service of process upon such person(s), by:

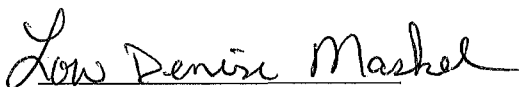
( ) personal service

(X) Certified Mail, postage pre-paid and deposited in the United States Mail, plainly addressed to such person(s) at the above-described location.

on this, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D. 2025.



Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me  
this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D. 2025.



Notary Public



9489 0090 0027 6599 5060 11



August 18, 2025

Dear LORI MASKEL:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:  
**9489 0090 0027 6599 5060 11.**


#### Item Details

<b>Status:</b>	Delivered, Left with Individual
<b>Status Date / Time:</b>	August 18, 2025, 12:22 pm
<b>Location:</b>	WISCONSIN DELLS, WI 53965
<b>Postal Product:</b>	First-Class Mail®
<b>Extra Services:</b>	Certified Mail™ Return Receipt Electronic

#### Shipment Details

<b>Weight:</b>	6lb, 1.1oz
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#### Recipient Signature

Signature of Recipient:	
Address of Recipient:	3196 STATE HIGHWAY 13, WISCONSIN DELLS, WI 53965

Note: Scanned image may reflect a different destination address due to Intended Recipient's delivery instructions on file.

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,  
United States Postal Service®  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004