

COUNTY OF LASALLE

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------|
| COUNTY OF LASALLE |) | |
| |) | |
| Complainant |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | |
| |) | |
| TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC. |) | |
| |) | AC NO. |
| |) | |
| Respondent(s) |) | |

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, TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC. is the present owner of the property located in Mendota 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. 0998185009. The said facility is commonly known to the Agency as the Mendota Tri-County Fairgrounds Property.
3. That the Respondent has owned and operated said facility since at least 2006.
4. That on June 18, 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 June 18, 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)]). |
| XXX | 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)]). |
| | 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
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

AC NO.

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

COUNTY OF LASALLE)

Complainant)

v.)

TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.)

Respondent(s))

AC NO.

REMITTANCE FORM

FACILITY:

Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn, INC. Site Code:0998185009
503 1st Ave. County: LaSalle
Mendota, IL 61342 Township: Mendota

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: June 18, 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:

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

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.

TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.

Respondent(s)

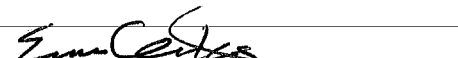
AC NO.

AFFIDAVIT

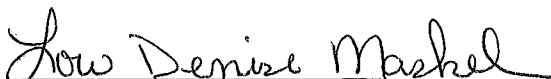
Affiants, Lauren Grumieaux and Emma Gerkitz, being first duly sworn, voluntarily deposes and states as follows:

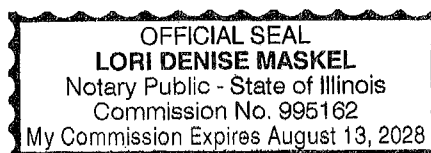
1. Affiants are employed by the County of LaSalle and have been so employed at all times pertinent hereto.
2. On June 18, 2025, between 11:53 a.m. and 11:57 a.m., Affiants conducted inspections of an open burn and open dump site operating without an Agency permit, located in LaSalle County, Illinois, and known as the Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn Inc, by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The said site has been assigned site code number 0998185009 by the Agency.
3. Affiant inspected the said Mendota Township / Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn, Inc., 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 Mendota Township / Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn, Inc., open burn and open dump site.


Lauren Grumieaux, LaSalle County


Emma Gerkitz, LaSalle County

Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me
this 17th day of July, A.D. 2025.


Notary Public



COUNTY OF LASALLE

Complainant

v.

TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.

Respondent(s)

Facility# 0998185009
Facility Name: Mendota Tri-Co
Fairgrounds Assn INC

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 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 #: 0998185009 Region: 1 - Rockford

Site Name: Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn INC

Site Address: 503 1 st Ave City: Mendota

Inspector: L. Grumieaux, E. Gerkitz Interviewed: _____

Date: 06/18/2025 Current Est. 80 yds³

Complaint #: 24LSLC-000 Waste Amt. _____

Responsible Party Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn INC
Mailing Address(es) 503 1st Ave
and Phone Number(s): Mendota, IL 61342

Melinda M Ramer
405 First Ave. PO Box 142
Mendota, IL 61342

| Section | Description | Status |
|---|---|--------|
| Illinois Environmental Protection Act Requirements | | |
| 9(a) | Cause, threaten, or allow air pollution in Illinois | V |
| 9(c) | Cause or allow open burning | V |
| 12(a) | Cause, threaten, or allow water pollution in Illinois | |
| 12(d) | Create a water pollution hazard | |
| 21(a) | Cause or allow open dumping | V |
| 21(d) | 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 | |
| 21(e) | Dispose, treat, store, or abandon waste, or transport waste into Illinois for such activities, except at a site meeting Act and regulatory requirements | V |
| 21(p) | 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 |
| 55(a) | 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 | |

| | | |
|--|---|----|
| 55(k) | 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 | |
| Consumer Electronic Recycling Act (415 ILCS 151) Requirements | | |
| 83(c) | 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 | |
| 83(d) | No person may knowingly cause or allow the burning or incineration of a CED or other listed device | |
| 35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle G Requirements | | |
| 722.111 | Hazardous waste determination | |
| 808.121 | Special waste determination | |
| 809.302(a) | Acceptance of special waste from a waste transporter without a waste hauling permit and manifest | |
| 812.101(a) | Application submitted for permit to develop and operate landfill | |
| Other Requirements | | |
| Apparent violation of: <input type="checkbox"/> PCB order <input type="checkbox"/> Circuit Court order | | NA |
| Case Number ; Order entered on | | |
| 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)).

0998185009-LaSalle County
Mendota/ Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Assn INC

NARRATIVE INSPECTION REPORT DOCUMENT

GENERAL REMARKS

On June 18, 2025, an open dumping re-inspection was conducted at 503 1st Ave, Mendota 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.

On June 18, 2025, the weather was overcast and 78°F. Winds were ENE at 8 mph.

Ms. Grumieaux and I arrived at the site at 11:53 a.m. and began the inspection.

Upon entry through Gate 1, we proceeded along the access road toward the eastern portion of the parcel. Along the access road, I observed and documented the previously recorded burn pile. The burn pile appeared to have been freshly burned and remains on the site. While viewing the area, we documented car parts, metal, pallets, plastics, pieces of furniture, a partially burnt tire, and household waste mixed in the ash pile. (Photos #1 & #2)

Continuing south, I noted that the previously documented dumpsters remain on-site and remain overflowing with waste. (Photo #3) While facing southeast, I observed and documented a newly placed tanker truck located within overgrown vegetation. (Photo #4) Due to the overgrown vegetation throughout the southeastern portion of the parcel, visibility was limited, and we were unable to view the previously documented area.

Lastly, we made our way back north along the access road. Facing north, I documented that the previously recorded demolished RV had been removed from the area. (Photo #5) After documenting our findings, we concluded the inspection at 11:57 a.m.

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, and 55(k) 1

END OF NARRATIVE BY EMMA GERKITZ

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SITE SKETCH

Date of Inspection: 6.18.25 Inspector (s): L. Grumiaux, E. Gerkitz

Site Code: 0998185009 County: LASALLE

Site Name: Mendota Tri-Co Fairgrounds Time: 11:53 - 11:57 am
ASSN INC.



N ↑



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Mendota Fairgrounds 0998185009



Date: 06/18/2025
Time: 11:54 AM
Direction: Northeast
Photo by:
L. Grumieaux
Exposure #: 1
Comments: Burn
pile, charred
remains.



Date: 06/18/2025
Time: 11:55 AM
Direction: Southeast
Photo by:
L. Grumieaux
Exposure #: 2
Comments: Burn
pile, charred
remains.



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Mendota Fairgrounds 0998185009



Date: 06/18/2025
Time: 11:55 AM
Direction: Southwest
Photo by:
L. Grumieaux
Exposure #: 3
Comments:
Dumpsters,
overflowing.



Date: 06/18/2025
Time: 11:56 AM
Direction: Southeast
Photo by:
L. Grumieaux
Exposure #: 4
Comments:
Overgrown
vegetation, new
tanker truck.



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Mendota Fairgrounds 0998185009

Date: 06/18/2025
Time: 11:57 AM
Direction: North
Photo by:
L. Grumieaux
Exposure #: 5
Comments: Clean
area, RV removed.



**BEFORE THE
ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

COUNTY OF LASALLE)

Complainant)

v.)

TRI-COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.)

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):

Melinda M Ramer
405 First Ave. PO Box 142
Mendota, IL 61342

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

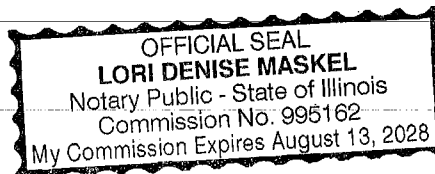
() personal service

☒ 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 day of August, A.D. 2025.

[Signature]

Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me
this 12 day of August, A.D. 2025.



Lori Denise Maskel

Notary Public

9489 0090 0027 6599 5869 38



August 20, 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 5869 38.

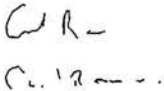
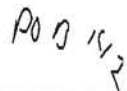
Item Details

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Status: | Delivered, Individual Picked Up at Post Office |
| Status Date / Time: | August 20, 2025, 12:16 pm |
| Location: | MENDOTA, IL 61342 |
| Postal Product: | First-Class Mail® |
| Extra Services: | Certified Mail™ |
| | Return Receipt Electronic |

Shipment Details

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Weight: | 5lb, 11.5oz |
|----------------|-------------|

Recipient Signature

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Signature of Recipient: |  |
| Address of Recipient: |  |

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