



FOR RELEASE: October 14, 2014
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Ohio EPA Seeks Public's Help to Nab Nature Preserve Dumper

Eleven containers containing paint, sealer and oil wastes were dumped beside Irwin Prairie State Nature Preserve in Lucas County in late September. Ohio EPA is seeking assistance from anyone who may have seen activity at the dump site or know the person or people who dumped the material.

The containers were dumped in a drainage ditch on Irwin Road adjacent to the preserve and Secor Metropark the weekend of Sept. 27-28. The 11 five-gallon containers contained yellow paint, white paint, Thompson's water seal, concrete sealer, foundation sealer and oil.

Some containers were open and some were unopened. They were submerged in water in the ditch and there was an oily sheen on the water. The containers were removed from the ditch and the ditch was cleaned.

Ohio EPA is investigating the incident but needs the public's help to continue efforts to identify those responsible.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Rick Hassinger at Ohio EPA's Northwest District Office in Bowling Green at (419) 352-8461 or (800) 686-6930, or email him at derek.hassinger@epa.ohio.gov.

EDITOR'S NOTE: High resolution photos of the containers are available at <http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/nr/IrwinRd1.jpg> and <http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/nr/IrwinRd2.jpg>

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The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency was created in 1972 to consolidate efforts to protect and improve air quality, water quality and waste management in Ohio. Since then, air pollutants dropped by as much as 90 percent; large rivers meeting standards improved from 21 percent to 89 percent; and hundreds of polluting, open dumps were replaced with engineered landfills and an increased emphasis on waste reduction and recycling.