

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection**

U30180191743892

FACILITY: Shierey Animal Clinic		SRN / ID: U301801917
LOCATION: 3271 E. Bell St., Camden		DISTRICT: Jackson
CITY: Camden		COUNTY: HILLSDALE
CONTACT:		ACTIVITY DATE: 03/28/2018
STAFF: Brian Carley	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Follow up on suspected medical waste incinerator reported to AQD from WMRPD		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Facility Contact: Dr. Fred Shierey
Phone Number: 517-368-5721

On February 22, 2018, AQD Jackson District Office was told about a potential medical waste incinerator being operated at a veterinarian clinic in Camden, Michigan by Waste Management and Radiological Protection Division (WMRPD). Andy Shannon, Medical Waste Regulatory Program – Solid Waste Section, notified Larry Bean, WMRPD-Jackson Supervisor that Local Health Department Inspector James Young from Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency visited a medical waste producer in Camden, MI to perform a medical waste inspection that was 'incinerating' all of his medical waste and general waste and 'burying it' in the back of the property.

The owner is a Dr. Fred Shierey, and the name of the facility is Shierey Animal Clinic at 327 E Bell St, Camden, MI 49232. He primarily handles treatment of horses and some other large livestock, so from an Medical Waste perspective they assumed that he is also probably incinerating horse parts, blood vials, and some needles/syringes, perhaps with residual pharmaceuticals. Andy had James refer his contact info to Dr. Shierey and told him to contact him. When Andy spoke to him, he confirmed this practice.

Andy informed him he was definitely not operating within compliance, and also informed him that if he uses an incinerator on the location he needs at the very least an air quality permit. For the time being, Andy told him to immediately cease and desist burning any more medical waste until he is permitted to do so and to immediately secure a proper medical waste disposal contract, have his medical waste and any pharmaceutical waste segregated as he is instructed by the disposal service, and that he expected a scanned copy of the contract with any additional info by the close of business the next day. Dr. Shierey said he 'reluctantly' would follow the regulations.

Since we had not heard any follow-up from WMRPD concerning this, I contacted Andy concerning the status. Andy stated that the owner had not responded to the deadline and had not had any contact since March 8th.

On March 28, 2018 I went down to the Shierey Animal Clinic and talked with Dr. Shierey concerning his medical waste incinerator that he had. It turns out that there may have been some miscommunication about this. During my discussion with him I learned that what was actually going on was that he had taken stuff from his veterinary clinic home and was burning it in the burner in his barn and then disposing of the ashes on his property. He told me that he is not doing that anymore and has signed a contract with a medical waste disposal service out of Portage, MI. He told me that he has sent a copy showing that he signed the contract. I assumed that it was sent to Andy Shannon, but I didn't ask to whom specifically he sent it to. I did emphasize to him that taking waste or other items home to be burned was also not allowed under state law and Rule 310 of the state air regulations. I am considering this resolved for the AQD portion of this at this time.

NAME Brian Carley DATE 4/12/18 SUPERVISOR [Signature]