City of Springfield
Water Pollution Control Section
Pollution Complaint/Report Form

Date 7-19-91

Report From:
- [x] Citizen
- [ ] Fire Dept
- [ ] Sewer Maintenance
- [ ] Other

Received By: JULIE BOSWELL
Referred To: KAREN CHANDLER
Date of Incident: 7-18-91

Complainant Information:
Name MARIETTA HILL
Address 3301 N. FREMONT
Phone 833-2961

Responsible Party Information:
Name ALVIN HIGHFILL
Address 3269 N. FREMONT
Phone 833-3502

Directions(if needed)

Possible contamination of:
- [x] soil
- [x] groundwater
- [ ] surface water what body?
- [ ] other

Other Pertinent Information

Who to contact:

[x] DNR 417-883-4033	[ ] Bob Schaefer	[ ] Sewer Const
[ ] DNR 314-634-2436	[ ] CU 831-8320	[ ] Chemtrec 800-424-9300
[ ] EPA 913-236-3378	[ ] Street Dept	[ ] DOT
[ ] Fire Dept 864-1719	[ ] Health Dept	[ ] NRC 312-790-5500
[ ] Police Dept 864-1719	[ ] Sewer Maint	[ ] Other

Details of Incident: MRS. HILL TOLD ME THAT HER NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR PUT "DIESEL FUEL" DOWN IN HIS YARD BETWEEN 11:30 & 12:00 AM. & SHE COULD REALLY SMELL THE ODOR IN HER HOUSE. SHE SAID SHE HAD CALLED THE HEALTH DEPT. & THEY TOLD HER IT WAS ILLEGAL. SHE HAD ALSO CALLED DNR TWICE & THEY REFERRED HER TO US.

Action needed: CHECK COMPLAINT & CALL DNR ABOUT IT.

3269 N. FREMONT

Investigation Results

I WENT TO MRS. HILL'S HOUSE AFTER RECEIVING HER CALL (ABOUT 2:30 PM). SHE TOLD ME IT WAS HER NEIGHBOR TO THE SOUTH WHO HAD CAUSED THE PROBLEM. I LOOKED IN THE HIGHFILL'S BACK YARD AND THERE WAS PETROLEUM PRODUCT ALONG THE FENCE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THEIR YARD. THERE WAS ALSO A PLASTIC PIPE GOING TO A SMALL DRAINAGE DITCH TO THE SOUTH OF THAT FENCE THAT HAD OIL IN IT. THERE WAS APPROXIMATELY A GALLON OR LESS OF THE OIL SPREAD ON THE GROUND. I TALKED TO THE HIGHFILLS AND INFORMED THEM THAT USED OIL WAS CONSIDERED A HAZARDOUS WASTE IN MISSOURI AND IT WAS ILLEGAL TO PUT IT OUT ON THE GROUND TO KILL WEEDS, ETC. THEY WERE UNAWARE THAT IT WAS ILLEGAL & SAID THEY WOULD "TAKE CARE OF IT". I ASKED ABOUT THE PLASTIC PIPE GOING TO THE DRAINAGE DITCH & MR HIGHFILL TOLD ME IT CAME FROM THEIR GUTTERING. THEY ACCUSED MRS. HILL OF BEING A TROUBLE MAKER AND SAID SHE HAD JOHNSON GRASS IN HER YARD WHICH WAS COMING OVER INTO THEIRS & THAT'S WHY THEY HAD PUT THE OIL DOWN BY THE FENCE. I TOLD THEM I COULDN'T SAY WHO COMPLAINED & THEY SAID THEY HAD HAD TROUBLE WITH HER IN THE PAST & THERE WAS SOME KIND OF ARGUMENT GOING ON ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE FENCE BETWEEN HER BACK YARD & THEIRS. WHEN I GOT BACK TO THE OFFICE I CALLED MRS. HILL & TOLD HER THE HIGHFILLS WERE UNAWARE THAT THAT HAD BEEN AN ILLEGAL DISCHARGE. I OFFERED TO CALL DNR FOR HER. SHE SAID THAT WASN'T NECESSARY BECAUSE SHE HAD ALREADY CALLED & THEY WOULD "PROBABLY DO IT AGAIN". I TOLD HER TO CALL THIS OFFICE IF SHE HAD ANY MORE PROBLEMS LIKE THAT.