



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Jon Monger
Director

September 19, 2024

Strittmatter Companies
9102 Owens Drive
Manassas Park, VA

Re: ECCD Case #20242316
Agricultural Burn Permit
Property accessed by 18201 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring MD 20860
MD Dept of Assessments and Taxation Number 08-00717538

Dear Strittmatter Brooke Road Farm LLC,

Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is issuing the attached Agricultural Burn Permit to Strittmatter Brooke Farm Road LLC for an agricultural burn at 18201 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring MD 20860.

Please ensure that all conditions of the permit are met prior to conducting any burn. On September 14, 2024, I inspected two burn piles. Both burn piles were located on the east side of the farm near the property line that is closest to Brooke Road. As instructed during my inspection, clear the area for the burn site of trees and dense vegetation.

Any fire which does not meet the criteria established for an agricultural burn will be deemed an open fire by DEP and is prohibited by Montgomery County's Air Quality Control Ordinance. The penalty for an air ordinance violation is \$500 for the first offense. Each day a violation continues may be considered a separate offense.

Agricultural burns may occur from September 1st to May 31st. There is an exception to the burning prohibition during the period from June 1 through August 31 of each year for the burning of pest infested crops or products, agricultural burning that is necessary for animal disease control, and agricultural burning of excessive lodging for the purpose of re-cropping. Confirmation of such conditions is to be obtained, in writing by the applicant, from the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service prior to requesting an agricultural burning permit from DEP.

Our objective is to eliminate or minimize potential problems created by open burning, not to issue citations. If you have any questions or would like a copy of Montgomery County's Air Quality Control Ordinance or Maryland Department of the Environment's regulations on open fires, please call me at (202) 308-2351.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aftan Sylvester".

Aftan Sylvester
Environmental Health Specialist III

Enclosure: Agricultural Burning General Permit



Montgomery County

Department of Environmental Protection
Energy, Climate and Compliance Division
2425 Reddie Dr, 4th Floor, Wheaton, MD 20902



Agricultural Burning General Permit

This permit is issued pursuant to Montgomery County Code Chapter 3 and the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.11.0

Permit Effective Date: September 19, 2024

Permit Expiration Date: October 19, 2024

ECCD Case #20242316

This permit authorizes:

Name: Strittmatter Brooke Farm Road LLC
Address: 9102 Owens Drive
Manassas Park, VA 20111
Cell (571) 388-6733

To burn agricultural debris as described herein at the following location:

The property known as Strittmatter Brooke Farm Road LLC with Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation identification numbers 08-00717538. The property is owned by Strittmatter Companies. The burn pile is accessed by entering the main gate for Strittmatter Brooke Farm, on 18201 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring.

This permit is subject to the following conditions:

1. Burning is prohibited during the period from June 1st through August 31st of each year.
2. Material to be burned shall have originated on the properties known as Homestead Farm on which it is to be burned and must be agricultural debris which is directly related to qualified agricultural operations in growing crops or raising fowl or animals or in accepted forestry practices. Downed trees in pasture or crop areas and vegetative materials cleared from fence rows may also be burned.
3. It is prohibited to burn any of the following materials: ordinary household waste, construction or demolition debris, barnyard refuse, lumber, and materials which produce dense smoke when burned, including, but not limited to tires and roofing materials.
4. Prior to ignition of the fire, you must call 311 within Montgomery County (or 240-777-0311 outside the County), and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services at 240-683-6520, and provide notification on the day you will be burning.
5. The burn must not cause a hazardous condition or air pollution nuisance.
6. Burning may not be done within 500 yards (1,500 feet) of one or more occupied buildings, or heavily traveled public roadways.
7. A fire supervisor, 18 years of age or older, must be within direct view of the fire at all times.
8. When burning is in progress, this permit and fire extinguishing equipment, including water in sufficient quantity to extinguish the fire, must be readily available on site.
9. Designated representatives of the Department of Environmental Protection shall be granted access to the property at reasonable times for the purpose of determining compliance with this permit.
10. No fires may be started prior to 7:00 a.m. nor may materials be added to the fires after 4:30 p.m.
11. There may be no burning on weekends or holidays recognized by the Montgomery County Government unless specifically authorized by Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection.
12. Fire control laws or regulations of other governmental agencies must not be violated.

13. You may not burn if winds are forecasted to be greater than 12 mph for your ZIP Code area as reported by the NOAA National Weather Service Forecast at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>.
14. You may not burn when the Governor or the Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment declares an air pollution episode.
15. You may not burn when NOAA declares a “red flag” warning. “A red flag warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will shortly. A combination of strong winds, low relative humidity, and warm temperatures will create explosive fire growth potential.” Weather information may be found at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>.
16. You may not burn during a temperature inversion, when the ground temperature is lower than the air mass above it. Fog is an indication of a temperature inversion. The burn may not occur when fog is forecasted or present. Weather information may be found at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>.

If weather conditions change during the burn, you are required to act to mitigate the nuisance conditions.

Violations of any condition of this permit or any laws or regulations will constitute cause for revocation of this permit and fines of \$500 per violation, per day may be imposed.