



**Contact Information:**  
Brian Fowls,  
Community Program Specialist  
Office: (937) 224-8831  
E-mail: FowlsB@mcOhio.org

Montgomery County  
Environmental Services  
Solid Waste District  
2550 Sandridge Dr.  
Dayton, OH 45439

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Regional Environmental Crimes Task Force Targets Illegal Dumping in Montgomery County, Ohio

Dayton, Ohio (March 28, 2013) —To date, the Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force has investigated more than 30 environmental crimes such as open dumping, public nuisance sites and the unlawful transportation of scrap tires, which represent threats to public health.

“Environmental crimes, such as illegal tire dumping, have been plaguing Montgomery County (Ohio) for a number of years,” said Brian Fowls, community program specialist for Montgomery County Environmental Services. “Open dumping poses a risk to public health and costs local municipalities hundreds of thousands of dollars to clean up.”

Citizen participation has contributed to the success of the task force. Recently, Orande Clarke was convicted for dumping more than 100 scraps tires on a vacant property in the City of Dayton. His crime was captured on a cell phone camera by a 16-year-old witness, who then reported the crime to the task force. Dumping just one tire illegally is a felony, and Clarke was sentenced to five years of probation, 100 hours of community service, and a \$1,000 fine.

“These crimes are being prosecuted more aggressively, and we encourage citizens to take action by reporting environmental crimes that they witness,” said Victoria Dingee, environmental enforcement deputy for the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office.

In addition to enforcement actions, the task force educates local tire shops and dealerships about their legal responsibilities. The task force also works to educate citizens about the economic and environmental impact of environmental crime in their community.

To report suspicious tire hauling or illegal dumping activity, citizens can visit [www.kmcbohio.org](http://www.kmcbohio.org) or call the Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force Hotline at (937) 225-HELP (4357).

#### **About the Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force**

The Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force seeks to improve and protect public health and the environment through responsible enforcement and comprehensive outreach and education. The task force is a partnership between local municipalities, enforcement agencies, and regulatory organizations, including the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office, Montgomery County Environmental Services, the City of Dayton, the City of Trotwood, Harrison Township, Jefferson Township, Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.