

Landfill owner accused of violating county law

By LINDSAY HAYES
Staff Writer

An Orange County man who has operated a landfill on the University Lake watershed for the past five years without a permit will face legal action authorized by the county commissioners.

Jehue Edwards charges \$5 per load to dump debris on one acre of his 10-acre lot on Jo Mac Road, five miles west of Carrboro.

Besides a few junk cars and old refrigerators, most of the debris dumped in the landfill consists of soil, trees, stumps, waste lumber and other construction site waste, said Warren Faircloth, erosion control supervisor of the Orange County Planning Department.

County officials are concerned about the landfill because no one is regulating what is dumped, Faircloth said. Edwards is not covering the debris with soil, which creates a thriving habitat for rats and snakes, he said.

The county commissioners also fear that this landfill could harm the University Lake water supply, which serves about 55,000 people in Chapel Hill, Carrboro and parts

of Orange County.

Property owners planning to operate a landfill must first obtain a special-use permit from the county, but Edwards has ignored warnings that he is violating this county zoning ordinance, Faircloth said.

The county has issued Edwards a stop-work order to prevent further dumpings, but he continues to operate the landfill, Faircloth said.

Edwards is also violating a county erosion control ordinance that prohibits property owners from disturbing more than one-half of an acre of land without obtaining a special permit, Faircloth said.

The county commissioners authorized county attorney Geoff Gledhill last week to take legal action against Edwards.

"We have made several attempts to resolve the situation," Faircloth said. "We have suggested to him that he cease operations and restabilize his property."

The county wants Edwards to cease his landfill operation and stabilize his remaining property

with vegetation, he said.

But as of last week, Gledhill said he had only recently received the information on Edwards' landfill and had not yet reviewed it.

Faircloth said the county commissioners want Gledhill to write a letter to Edwards stating the county's case against him and asking for compliance. Edwards then has 30 days to respond to the letter.

If Edwards does not comply with the county's request, the county will seek an injunction, Faircloth said. Failure to heed the injunction will cost Edwards at least \$100 a day in fines, he said.

The planning department has received numerous phone calls from neighbors complaining about the landfill, especially after a rain when trucks dumping at the property leave mud tracks on nearby roads, he said.

"When it rains we get five to 10 calls a day," Faircloth said.

Up to this point, Edwards' response has been one of surprise that the county would monitor the use of his land.

Program to offset heating costs for state's low-income residents

By GERDA GALLOP
Staff Writer

With winter fast approaching, many of North Carolina's poor will be left out in the cold. But the state government will spend about \$23.7 million in federal funds in an effort to heat the homes of the needy.

The program, funded by a federal grant specifically designated for energy assistance under the Low Income Energy Assistance program, is primarily designed to help offset the cost of heating bills during the winter months, said Meredith Smith, director of public affairs for the N.C. Department of Human Resources, which controls the money.

Smith said priority is given to the elderly, the disabled and families with young children, but eligibility is determined only after residents apply

for the program.

Anyone responsible for heating bills who meets income guidelines of the program is eligible for assistance, said Martin Whitt, income maintenance director of the Department of Social Services in Orange County.

To be eligible, residents must have household incomes at or below 110 percent of the 1987 poverty level and have household financial assets of \$2,200 or less. For example, a family of two must have an average income of less than \$678 per month and a family of four must not exceed \$1,026.

Smith estimated that statewide, as many as 187,000 households may be eligible for assistance this year as compared with 166,000 households that received assistance last year.

In Orange County, 850 households

in Orange County received assistance from the program last year, Whitt said. But this year's numbers depend on how many people apply, he said.

"We encourage any household that thinks it might be eligible to apply," Whitt said.

Eligible N.C. residents should apply at their county's Department of Social Services between Oct. 15 and Nov. 25, Smith said.

The application process is not on a first come-first serve basis, so anyone who applies during the specified times will be considered, Whitt said.

Local employees of the department will gather and verify applications according to program rules and policies, but final decisions will be made by the state Department of Social Services, Whitt said.

Reports

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In 1985, before the study was issued, 41 percent of UNC-CH's entering freshman student athletes had scores of less than 700. This fall, the percentages dwindled to zero percent.

N.C. State also dropped to zero percent of below-700 scores, after reporting 42 percent in 1985. Twenty-one percent of ECU's entering freshmen had SAT scores less than 700, down from 48 percent in 1985.

Padilla said the graduation rates for student athletes at many of the schools compare favorably to those of the rest of the students.

The five-year graduation rate for the 1981 freshman football players at UNC-CH was nearly 70 percent, compared to 32 percent for the 1980 freshman class.

However, UNC-CH fared better than other schools in the system. ECU's football program reported a graduation rate of only 5 percent.

The reports represent the second year of data and information on athletics since the BOG issued its comprehensive report on athletics in October 1985.

In an interview Monday, Padilla praised the University's coaches and athletic department officials for their successful efforts.

"I think the chancellor, athletic director and particularly the coaches should be commended for this progress, because without their concurrence with what the Board of Governors is trying to do, there wouldn't have been such a splendid record," Padilla said.

Athletic reports from Pembroke State University and Elizabeth City State University have not been released.

Students questioned Monday responded favorably to the academic progress outlined in the report, but said student athletes should be admitted to the University on the same standards as other students.

The students also agreed that exceptions were not a major problem on the Chapel Hill campus, especially in comparison to other schools in the system.

"Carolina has a reputation of being hard," said Dawn Witherspoon, a native of Kannapolis and graduate student in the School of Public Health.

"Many athletes who are really good go to other schools because they know they can't make it here," she said.

Witherspoon also said she thought public knowledge of the academic

standings of student athletes was not helpful. "They (athletic departments) are going to learn to fudge the records and change the numbers to make it look better anyway."

A junior industrial relations major who asked not to be identified said student academic standings should not be made public, and such records should be considered private information.

"I wouldn't want confidential information on me made public," he said.

David Whitehead, a freshman psychology major from Wake Forest, said he thought the reports were helpful because they would throw light on unacceptable academic standings, and would put pressure on administrators to upgrade standards.

Runoff

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several issues as a congress member, including the Old East/Old West renovations, defunding of the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association, and student input on the search for a new chancellor.

"I'll address whatever my constituents in District 17 want me to address," he said.

Miller said graduate students Kendrick Prewitt and Logan Browning, who received one write-in vote each, declined to compete in a runoff in District 8 due to lack of interest. District 8 will be the only district left unrepresented, she said.

All the winners declared Tuesday turned in their financial statements on time, so that no one was disqualified, Miller said.

She said, "The financial statement

is a way of screening out uninterested write-in candidates as well as making the others do their jobs."

Sanford

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banners about the anti-apartheid candlelight vigil planned for Tuesday night.

They walked down the center aisles, then lined up by the walls for the rest of the ceremony, holding the signs aloft.

RECYCLE
This Newspaper

Get a Head Start at the Carolina Career Fair



October 14 in Great Hall
noon - 5:00 p.m.

Seniors: Meet prospective employers and find out what they have to offer. (BRING RESUMES!)

Juniors: Look for INTERNSHIPS and explore different kinds of careers.

Sophomores & Freshmen: Discover what majors are sought by employers and what career planning (electives, experience, and activities) will be valuable.

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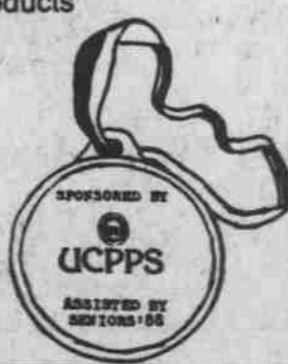
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University Career Planning & Placement Services-A Division of Student Affairs



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Informal personal interviews will be held Oct. 26-30

For More Information: Stop by the Pit, October 13 & 14

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