

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Scheduled Inspection

N789135494

FACILITY: Green Oak Memorial Services Co.		SRN / ID: N7891
LOCATION: 11096 HI TECH DR, WHITMORE LAKE		DISTRICT: Lansing
CITY: WHITMORE LAKE		COUNTY: LIVINGSTON
CONTACT: Jeff Russell , Chief Operating Officer		ACTIVITY DATE: 07/12/2016
STAFF: Nathaniel Hude	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Scheduled, unannounced, initial contact (as inspector) inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Inspection Report

N7891- Green Oak Memorial
11096 Hi-Tech Drive
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Inspection Date:

7/12/16

Facility Contacts:Jeff Russell, 734-449-7000, info@greenoakmemorials.com**MDEQ AQD Personnel:**Nathan Hude – huden@michigan.gov, 517-284-6779**Facility Description:**

(from website) Green Oak Pet Memorials was founded in 2007 by a father and son duo, Jeff and Curt Russell.

The facility provides cremation services for pets which is permitted under PTI 377-08. At one time the facility performed human cremation which is permitted under PTI 376-08 yet has since sold the equipment and thus the permit can be void as found during this inspection.

The facility is a minor source for PM and employs 2 individuals and operates 5 days per week 9am-5pm.

Green Oak Services is located in an industrial park area near the intersection of US23 and M36. When this facility address is entered into online mapping site, it shows a location towards the end of Hi-Tech Drive. This is inaccurate thus a map is attached in this report.

Applicable Regulations:

PTI 377-08 for a Matthews Model Power Pak II Pet Crematory

Voided Permits:

PTI 376-08 for a Matthews Model Power Pak II Human Crematory will be voided for removal of equipment.

Previous Inspections (within 5 years):

6/19/08, Brad Myott, no issues noted

Previous Violations:

none

Violations Found During this Inspection including reoccurring:

PTI 377-08 condition 2.5: the temperature recording device inoperative

PTI 377-08 condition 2.7: temperature records unavailable due to inoperative device

Recent Complaints (within 2 years):

none

MAERS Reporting

na

MAERS Emission Unit List

none

Inspection Summary

I arrived at Green Oaks Memorial around 10:15 am for a scheduled, unannounced, initial contact (as inspector) inspection. It was sunny skies with 5-10mph winds out of the south West; upon entering the parking lot and the building, I did not detect any odors or see any visible emissions.

I entered through the front entrance where I met Jeff. I introduced myself and informed him on the reason for my visit while providing him with a copy of our inspection brochure and my business card. No clients were in the building, so we reviewed the brochure in the front office area. We also took some time to review and discuss the PTI's that are active for Green Oaks. Jeff informed me that the incinerator for PTI 376-08, the human crematorium, has since been removed. Apparently there was a law in Michigan that prevented the tenants of rental properties from performing human cremation in rented buildings. This law has since been changed through the efforts of Jeff, but only after a period of 3 years and after he sold the unit. He informed me that they may be replacing the unit with another pet crematorium and stated he was familiar with the permit process to do so. I informed him that I would void permit 376-08 due to the device being removed (which I confirmed during my walk through).

We went to the back room to where the device is kept and performed the inspection with the permit. I confirmed the human device was removed and the pet device was in a cool down period after a previous cycle performed that morning. Jeff explained that they have to cool the device between burns per the manufacturer's recommendations. After the first burn the cool down is 15 minutes, after the second burn the cool down is 25 minutes, and longer thereafter depending on the number of burns to be performed. The maximum loading for the device is 750 lbs, which Jeff said they rarely reach. The average for group burns (ashes not requested to be returned), is 300-700 lbs and dependent on if the carcasses are frozen or not. Private burns are performed for individuals who request the ashes to be returned, in which the burn weight is dependent on the size of the animal.

The permit has a PM limit which is based on a minimum burn / incineration temperature of 1600°F. When we looked at the temperature recording device, it was missing the ink pen for recording temperature. Jeff stated that the pen had been out of ink for approx. 3 years. I informed Jeff that the recording device was intended to prove compliance with the temperature minimum and thus the PM limit. Jeff did inform me that they do not charge the incinerator prior to the device reaching 1600°F, which I believe because he knew the required number without me stating it. He stated that he uses the digital temperature monitor which is installed with the operating controls. I informed Jeff that this was in violation of conditions 2.5 for not maintaining the device and condition 2.7 for not having records of the device temperature. Jeff informed me that he would have the pen ordered that day. We then inspected the stack which I found to be compliant with the maximum diameter and minimum height requirements. The stack for the human cremation device is still installed from the wall to outside.

It appears that this facility is in compliance with all requirements of the applicable permit other than conditions 2.5 and 2.6. I explained to Jeff the violation process and informed him the letter would be sent within the next week.

This report will be used to void permit 376-08 in accordance with MDEQ memo Procedure for Voiding Permits to Install, dated June 7, 1999.



Image 1(Location map) : Location map

NAME *[Signature]*

DATE 7/13/16

SUPERVISOR *[Signature]*

