

ThisWeek CLINTONVILLE

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Also serving Beechwald

Tip to hotline helps nab illegal dumpers

By GARY SEMAN JR.
Week Staff Writer

A tip to a local hotline led to charges against two men and a contractor accused of illegally dumping concrete residue in the Overbrook Ravine.

Donald G. Rader of Chillicothe and Jerry Murvine II of Zanesville each pled guilty to separate charges stemming from a Sept. 16 incident that led to the dumping of residue along the bank and partially into the Adena Brook, the stream that winds through the Clintonville ravine.

A resident who witnessed the violation called the Nail A Dumper hotline, an answering service set up through the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio. Both Rader and Murvine were placed on probation, ordered to perform community service, and pay fines

and restitution. As part of their sentence, both men had to give money to local environmental groups—\$1,000 to the Adena Brook Community from Rader and \$1,200 to Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed from Murvine—and were forced to clean up the mess.

The contractor, Raffaele Contractors Inc., also was charged in the incident. Its role in the matter has not been resolved, said Deputy

Patrick Smith of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

Linda Paul, chairwoman of the Clintonville Area Commission's environmental, parks and recreation committee, said she's pleased the "residents of Adena Brook were aware of a pollution problem, called the city and the persons responsible for illegal dumping were held responsible."

John Remy, director of SWACO, said the

Nail A Dumper hotline is only helpful if people report illegal incidents.

"It's a situation where if people know that law enforcement is going to follow up, we hope it's a deterrent to stop something," Remy said. "And it works."

Clintonville-area ravines are a source of pride for many residents and volunteers, who

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perform such duties as cleaning up litter and removing invasive plants," said Martha Harter Buckalew, executive secretary of the Friends of the Ravines, an umbrella group that helps coordinate efforts in the area.

"You know, people were caught because the neighbors were watching," she said. "They watch out for the ravines. It's a really important ingredient in reporting dumping and vandalism and graffiti. People can't underestimate how important their eyes are in protecting the ravines."

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