

ORCAA Ostrom's Mushrooms Complaints



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

PUBLIC COPY

The complainant information has been deleted from this public record. The complainant has indicated a desire for nondisclosure. The information is exempt from public disclosure by RCW 42.17.149(1)(e).

Complaint ID: 8319

STAFF DATA Date: 11/06/2007 Received by: DJM Formal: OnCall:
 Time: 08:03 AM Referred to: RTM Online:

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name: [Complainant ID] Last Name: [Complainant ID]
 Address: [Complainant ID]
 Cit: Olympia State: WA Zip: 98508-
 Day Phone: [Complainant ID] Evening Phone: [Complainant ID]
 Email: [Complainant ID]

Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? Yes

SOURCE DATA Business: Residential: Phone: (360) 491-1410

Source Name: OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM
 Physical Address: 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE City: OLYMPIA
 Mailing Address: 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE
 Mail City: OLYMPIA State: WA Zip: 98503-

Smoke: Industrial: Odor: Open Fire: Dust: Woodstove:
 Other:

First Noticed:

Last Noticed:

Description: Horrible odor from plain this last weekend. It seems stronger on the weekends than the weekdays. Due to your office hours (MF, 8-5). How convenient for Ostroms. Not having to be held accountable for the stinch that emanates from the profitable source compost.

Action: RM: I contacted Christopher Street at Ostrom's 11/6/07 @ 11:52 AM. He will review operating schedules and whether mixing is occurring on the weekends. He will contact me later.
NOV#



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

Complaint ID 8642

STAFF DATA **Date** 07/10/2007 **Received by** MS **Formal** **OnCall**
Time 09:30 AM **Referred to** MS **Online**

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name Gail **Last Name** Lundsten
Address 1325 Union Mills Rd
City Lacey **State** WA **Zip** 98503-
Day Phone (360) 412-0299 **Evening Phone** (360) 412-0299
Email

Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? No

SOURCE DATA **Business** **Residential** **Phone** (360) 491-1410

Source Name OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM
Physical Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE **City** OLYMPIA
Mailing Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE
Mail City OLYMPIA **State** WA **Zip** 98503-

Smoke **Industrial** **Odor** **Open Fire** **Dust** **Woodstove**
Other

First Noticed

Last Noticed time of call

Description The caller states that the odor from the farm was so bad she had to go inside and no work in her garden any longer.

Action I told her that we would record and track complaints, but that there are some agriculture exemptions that Ostrom can work under that make it difficult for us to regulate them for odors.
NOV#



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

PUBLIC COPY

The complainant information has been deleted from this public record. The complainant has indicated a desire for nondisclosure. The information is exempted from public disclosure by RCW 42.17.310(1)(e).*

Complaint ID 16238

STAFF DATA Date 03/21/2018 Received by JW Formal OnCall
Time 09:24 PM Referred to RTM Online

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name [Complainant Id] Last Name [Complainant Id]

Address [Complainant Id]

Cit Olympia State WA Zip 98516-

Day Phone [Complainant Id] Evening Phone [Complainant Id]

Email [Complainant Id]

Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? Yes

SOURCE DATA Business Residential Phone (360) 491-1410

Source Name OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM

Physical Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE City OLYMPIA

Mailing Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE

Mail City OLYMPIA State WA Zip 98503-

Smoke Industrial Odor Open Fire Dust Woodstove
Asbestos/Demo Marijuana

Other

First Noticed

Last Noticed 03/21/18 all Day

Description Mildly Urgent. Odor.

I'm sure I'm not the first to complain about the smell coming from the mushroom farms. And everyone knows that the smell hasn't always been this bad, but it's unbearable now. My daughter goes to Meadows Elementary and everyday on the way to school she gets incredibly nauseous. And sometimes at school as well. I'm worried that in the summer it will be worse because of the heat. I find it crazy that they are able to let this continue. This is terrible for the quality of living in Lacey.

Tacoma took care of it's smell, why can't Lacey (with it's expanding and booming population) take care of this. Lacey is a crappy, gross place to live because of this.

Action On-Site Response

NOV# Will forward complaint to Ostrom's and schedule an inspection.

I am making this complaint to your agency as the company responsible has let it be known that they do not care about the impact they have on surrounding neighbors. I submit to you that if any individual household emitted this pollution they would be forced to stop.

Please take my complaint seriously as the situation has been getting progressively worse over time.

Thank you,

Susan Porter

Action

On-Site Response

NOV#

Will forward complaint to Ostrom's and schedule an inspection.

intense, toxic fumes emitted from the raw manures trucked in to make compost to grow mushrooms on? [found in legal document of over approx. 10 years ago]? ??
County chose to permit buildings right up to Ostrom's fence, as well as across street.

?The fumes adversely affect all in at least a ONE?+? MILE radius.

Frequency is intermittent; severity varies from blindingly, chokingly strong, to faint.

Ostrom's rep? strongly? claim?ed? "it only emits ammonia" [January 2018 meeting]. ?

I don't know if she simply never used ammonia herself, so doesn't know what that smells like? ?

BUT....there's far more emitted?.

Our back fence is common with Ostrom's. We get way too much of it. Cannot risk opening windows to try for "fresh air"...at any moment, the stench can assault us; windows safer closed!

Emissions include?:?

? ?H₂S [Hydrogen Sulfide], Methane, and who knows what else.?

It might contain ammonia...but that's not safe to breath in heavy concentrations, either!

And, any smell of ammonia, is utterly overwhelmed by the H₂S.

BOTH are dangerous in the often high concentrations we get here.

No matter what animal manure comes from, there will be H₂S, methane and other gasses, emitted as it rots; that is the same "sewer gas" marker everyone else is forbidden to let-loose in the air, per rules controlling sewage.

It's also in rules governing "Ag-pits".

County ignored all that.

Apparently, so do Air Quality Control workers?

Realtors selling houses here deliberately avoid disclosing how bad it is, to buyers. There are supposedly laws requiring disclosure of conditions of a property which might cause problems.

Not only had the bank/flippers/house inspector concealed some costly defects, our realtor said: "You might notice a slight, occasional odor from the farm next door".? ??

I replied: "I've repeatedly told you that Air Quality is a big issue; 3 of the 4 people who propose to live here, have asthma. IF this issue is bad, it's a deal-breaker for this property, for us."

I realized too late, that she really never responded to that; she was very good at changing subjects. ?

In 7 years of casual looking, in 4 Counties, I learned: dishonesty in real estate and related industries, is rampant.

EVIDENCE of H₂S:

A particularly hard, laquer-like, dark charcoal-color tarnish on silver and copper.

Pressure Treated lumber, because of the copper content, turns that color, too.

?S?ilver jewelry or utensils? turn much faster, even, than those change in Utah, where soft coal has historically been used for winter heating?; the sulfur compounds in both coal and H₂S, are what causes it?.

I toured ?Ostrom's; observed workers, mostly foreign-born, working close?-

around the sources of the emissions, yet, ZERO protective ?breathing ?gear, not even simple charcoal masks.

People can die from too much exposure to those fumes:

?<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/259545>? ?

H2S causes scarring of airways, neurological damage, nausea, burning eyes and airways, when at the concentrations often emitted here? [per government guidelines? found online]?

?[burning/watering eyes and airways, choking airways, feel dizzy, nauseous...that's indicating too-high concentrations]

So...

---WHY do the Air Quality Board, County, and Ostrom's, ALL use minimizing language?

? ?...It fools people into thinking these emissions are not dangerous, just "nuisance odors"?

---WHY is no one tracking this, collecting data, etc.?

? ...The Air Quality Board claims penury: they cannot afford special equipment needed; that it would cost them over \$30K.?

...Yet, in the past couple years, 2 or more Indegogo offers for pocket-sized Air Quality monitoring devices, each of which cost under \$500, and, are capable of adding more types of monitoring sensors for these emissions, on later models, or as add-ons for the initial model.

...There was even an "Instructable" segment, to show how to DIY an air monitor, and the guy suggested some bits that could make it monitor exactly these gasses!

---WHY does the Air Quality Board refuse to monitor the frequency, content, and severity of the emissions?

? ...One told me: "we place monitors far away from pollution sources, so we can get an idea how far the pollutant sources travel"; and, "no, we never monitor Ostrom's".?

---WHY doesn't Nisqually Middle School, across the street from Ostrom's, ever call "Bad Air Days", to protect kids' lungs, by keeping them indoors during bad emissions?

? ...?The school nurse was utterly unaware of what those even were, and said, "?no, we've never done that"?.

---WHY do Doctors in the area avoid connecting the dots, between frequency/severity of breathing disorders, and the prevalence of these emissions?

? ...Multiple Industry influencers?

We'll never know how many may have ?developed breathing ills from this place, because all the entities responsible for tracking it or controlling it, seem to be assiduously avoiding it.?

?

Ostrom's ?apparently has been doing nothing to protect their workers from those concentrated fumes?, far worse on-site, than even what we get? over their fence line.

? ?High turn-over of employees who work in their yard????

? ?Is anyone tracking those workers' health conditions?? ?

Who will help us ?

Action

On-Site Response

NOV#

Will forward complaint to Ostrom's and schedule an inspection.



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

Complaint ID 16919

STAFF DATA **Date** 05/09/2016 **Received by** JW **Formal** **OnCall**
Time 20:17 PM **Referred to** TG **Online**

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name James **Last Name** Perander
Address 320 Hyak Ct NE
City Olympia **State** WA **Zip** 98516-
Day Phone (360) 239-8086 **Evening Phone**
Email jperander44@gmail.com
Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? No

SOURCE DATA **Business** **Residential** **Phone** (360) 491-1410

Source Name OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM
Physical Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE **City** OLYMPIA
Mailing Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE
Mail City OLYMPIA **State** WA **Zip** 98503-

Smoke **Industrial** **Odor** **Open Fire** **Dust** **Woodstove**

Other Extremely urgent - I've lived here since 1990 and it's always smelled but the last couple of yrs its be en getting worse.

First Noticed Since 1990

Last Noticed 05/07/2016 @ 10AM

Description I have lived in the tanglewilde area for a long time and I'm concerned about the mushroom farms toxic odors coming from this place, its definitely out of control, the smell is worse than working at a wastewater plant, its like there using human waste for compost, I know for a fact that that they have been getting away from a lot of complaints about the smell, and to this day nothing has been done about it, the smell is so bad some days it wants to make you puke, maybe if they invest in air control unit it wouldn't be so bad, I've lived here since 1990 and it's always smelled but the last couple of yrs its be en getting worse.

Action

NOV#



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

Complaint ID 16645

STAFF DATA **Date** 01/04/2016 **Received by** JW **Formal** **OnCall**
Time 14:38 PM **Referred to** TG **Online**

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name Marion **Last Name** Christiansen

Address

City **State** WA **Zip**

Day Phone **Evening Phone**

Email

Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? No

SOURCE DATA **Business** **Residential** **Phone** (360) 491-1410

Source Name OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM

Physical Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE **City** OLYMPIA

Mailing Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE
Mail City OLYMPIA **State** WA **Zip** 98503-

Smoke **Industrial** **Odor** **Open Fire** **Dust** **Woodstove**

Other Mildly Urgent - Odor - Other: Haze or fog with odors

First Noticed

Last Noticed 12/21/16

Description I have lived in Lacey for 25 years, and of course noticed the foul odors from the Ostrom Mushroom farm from our first drive down Marvin Road in 1991. I was told since this was a long standing family business in Lacey that residents couldn't do anything about it. When the RAC (regional athletic center) was being built citizens were told that the profit to Ostroms from the sale of the property came with a promise from Ostroms to clean up their air pollution.

In the last several years I, and many friends who also live in the new and established neighborhoods near the mushroom farm, have noticed much heavier odors and what looks like particulate or cloudy, smoggy air in our neighborhoods. Several of us also have pulmonary issues when this air and odor is so heavy.

This poor air quality on the "heavy" days literally takes our breath away. It is a combination of chemical and waste odor.

With the new Regional Recreation facility and a school across the street one wonders what kind of chemical pollution is being inhaled by so many of our citizens. This stink also affects property values and the ability to complete real estate transactions if buyers notice the smells and polluted air.

I'd like to know what can be done to improve the air quality from this business's air pollution.

During the work week, most notable starting mid mornings and continues through day progressively worsening.

Action

NOV#



ORCAA COMPLAINT FORM

Complaint ID 15727

STAFF DATA **Date** 09/15/2014 **Received by** RTM **Formal** **OnCall**
Time 09:19 AM **Referred to** RTM **Online**

COMPLAINANT DATA

First Name Rachel **Last Name** Peahi
Address
Cit Lacey **State** WA **Zip**
Day Phone (360) 481-7051 **Evening Phone** (360) 481-7051
Email
Does the complainant require confidentiality, if possible? No

SOURCE DATA **Business** **Residential** **Phone** (360) 491-1410

Source Name OSTROMS MUSHROOM FARM
Physical Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE **City** OLYMPIA
Mailing Address 8323 STEILACOOM RD SE
Mail City OLYMPIA **State** WA **Zip** 98503-

Smoke **Industrial** **Odor** **Open Fire** **Dust** **Woodstove**
Other

First Noticed

Last Noticed Sunday, 9/14/14 in the evening hours

Description ERTS 651520-The complainant has been impacted by odors from Ostrom's.

Action RM 9/15/14 I spoke with complainant and explained that it was considered a farming activity and historically, Ostrom's has followed best management practices in their operation. She expressed concerns about ground water.

NOV#