

PRESS RELEASE



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**MADIGAN ACTS AGAINST MASON COUNTY MAN FOR ALLEGED
OPEN DUMPING VIOLATIONS**

Springfield – Attorney General Lisa Madigan has filed suit against a Mason County man who, according to neighbors’ complaints, has allegedly transported waste and debris to an unincorporated area of the county known as Buzzville.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and the Mason County Health Department began inspecting land owned by Willis E. Farley, Jr., in the Red and Eva Acres Subdivision in 2004 and 2005, with the most recent inspection conducted last week. The inspections revealed an inoperable and uninhabited camper and abandoned trailer surrounded by overgrown weeds, junk, refuse and waste at the site. In addition to litter strewn about, the site contains several piles of construction and demolition debris including wood, shingles, concrete blocks, old furniture and household refuse.

“There’s no reasonable way Mr. Farley could explain to his neighbors or the authorities why he’s operating his own version of a landfill here,” Madigan said.

Madigan’s lawsuit, filed February 9 in Mason County Circuit Court, charges Farley with open dumping and waste disposal violations and seeks a civil penalty of \$50,000 for each violation and \$10,000 for each day the violations continue.

Assistant Attorney General Javonna Homan is handling the case for Madigan’s Environmental Protection Division.