



STATE OF OHIO  
**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL FINDS OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PAVING PROJECT WAS ALTERED**

Columbus, Ohio, November 10, 2014

The Ohio Inspector General has issued a report of investigation today which found Paul Smithhisler, an employee of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Engineering, acted wrongfully by disregarding a road repaving plan he had submitted to the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The Ohio Department of Transportation administers funds for road repaving in the state park system. In keeping with policy, Smithhisler, a road maintenance program manager for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, submitted a paving plan, and gained approval from the Ohio Department of Transportation for repaving of several roadways at Caesar Creek State Park.

After the paving project was complete, administrators at the Ohio Department of Transportation discovered the original plan had been altered. The inspector general found Smithhisler directed contractors to pave different roadways; in one case, with another type of material.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2013-CA00051 is now available at:  
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2014Investigations.aspx>

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