



**If you
don't
know
WHY
it may
be too
LATE!**

By Henry Ingram, Esq.

THEN I read while leafing through some periodicals I ran across a reference to the Pennsylvania Noxious Weed Control Law. Curiosity aroused, I looked it up and found that we now have a Noxious Weed Control Committee¹ which designates noxious weeds and directs our municipalities to eradicate them if the landowner doesn't do it himself. Besides conjuring up an image of a bunch of pompous bureaucrats sitting around a room in Harrisburg mulling over what weeds to designate, I got to thinking about environmental regulation generally.

As many readers know, I have been dealing with environmental regulations and regulators in Pennsylvania for more years than I care to count right now. I go back to before the Sixties and early Seventies, when the General Assembly laid the basic legislative foundation for cleaning up our air, water and land resources. The purpose then was to prevent air and water pollution and to make sure industrial activities were controlled so that public health and safety and the natural environment were protected. Indeed, Pennsylvania was the pioneer among states in air and water pollution control.

The benefits of this early legislation were obvious to everyone. Costs could be internalized by industry or passed on to customers and the environment was improved. In fact, a

broad consensus emerged. In May 1971 the voters of Pennsylvania overwhelmingly voted YES on the following ballot question for a Constitutional Amendment:

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO
THE CONSTITUTION No. 3**

Shall Article I of the Constitution be amended by adding a new section guaranteeing the people's right to clear air and pure water and the preservation and conservation, by the Commonwealth, of the State's natural resources for the people's benefit?²

You may remember that this was in the dawn of the environmental era. Rachael Carson had aroused the conscience of the nation with her somewhat hyperbolic book, *Silent Spring* and the first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. In those days, many of us still had confidence that Government could solve all of our problems. We continued to cede more and more power and authority to Congress which in turn delegated that power to unelected and largely unaccountable regulatory bureaucrats.

What we didn't realize was that along with the higher taxes being imposed by the central government would come a whole series of new federal environmental statutes: the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, CERCLA or Superfund,

continued on page 2

1. Which by law, in case you're interested, consists of the Secretaries of Agriculture and Environmental Resources, the Executive Director of the Game Commission and two members of the General Assembly!

2. Although the voters were asked to vote on this narrow question, "somebody" tinkered around with the actual Amendment which reads: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

Needless to say, the actual language of the Amendment has been asserted aggressively by regulators as creating broad powers in Government to control private property and been the source of much anti-development mischief.

continued from page 1

just to mention a few. States were coerced into bringing their own laws "up" to federal standards. If the states wouldn't go along, the federal agencies would preempt local control and come into the states to enforce the new environmental mandates directly.

Congress wasn't satisfied with just controlling pollution-causing activity. It also decided that it should begin to dictate aesthetic preferences and economic choices for ordinary citizens and landowners. We began to get

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of your property,
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Not only do we not
run 'em out-of-town,
we vote for 'em!**

things like the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Endangered Species Act and the Historic Preservation Act and countless others. The purpose of these statutes was to preserve certain "natural values" by stopping development, not by controlling it. These statutes spawned regulatory programs that were foisted off the general public as "protecting the environment" and most ordinary citizens probably thought Congress was just trying to prevent industrial pollution. We know better now but to be entirely honest, it was us ordinary citizens who elected and reelected the people who enacted all these statutes and created enviro-police who enforce the regulations. We sat idly by while it happened.

Landowners in Pennsylvania began to wake up to what had happened when U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA began showing up in their backyards, doing more than just talking about wetlands. The alarm went off when, under Rails-to-Trails, reversionary interests in abandoned railroad rights-of-way were "suspended" and the former right-of-way suddenly became part of a fictional rail bank for future railroad use and, by the way, it will be used in the meantime by the public as a recreational trail. If your insurance

man, banker or machinery dealer tried to pull off a scam like Rails-to-Trails he'd be run out-of-town on a rail (except now, it's probably a park!). Why some legislator with the typical inside the Beltway arrogance and Gucci loafers can get away with this kind of scam defies logic or rational explanation. Are we all too dumb, naive or disinterested to do anything about it? That's what the people who are cramming all this down our throats must think about us.

I can sense some of you thinking to yourselves: "What's the big deal about Rails-to-Trails? Most trail groups don't have funding and municipalities don't have the money to pick-up the few parcels needed to complete the trail or to maintain or police it. These trails won't get off the ground."³ Like so many other things we let government get away with, our friends in the Pennsylvania General Assembly have come up with a solution — the Key 93 legislation which grabs realty transfer tax money from the General Fund and diverts it to "recreational projects" such as Rails-to-Trails. They'll let us pay for it! Are you getting it now? Government takes some of your property, lets others use it and makes you pay for it. Not only do we not

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run 'em out-of-town, we vote for 'em! The Music Man fleeced the suckers in River City but at least they got the trombones. Landowners get the hole in the donut.

At the risk of running out of space before I get to my point, I have to mention the latest scam, the National Biological Survey ("NBS") which is unfolding before our eyes right now. The NBS has been characterized in Don Hopey's Green Beat column as "the Clinton Administration's ecosystem approach to public land management." The idea here is

to survey all the ecosystems in the country so "rational" decisions on how and what endangered species should be protected. According to Mr. Hopey, "the NBS will catalog and map America's plants and animals to provide much needed information about the nations biological resources." In reality, the NBS is a device to deflect criticism of Endangered Species Act enforcement debacles such as Spotted Owl (25,000 timber industry jobs lost) and the Coastal Gnatcatcher (hundreds of homes burned to the ground in California) and to set the stage for more government control over private property. These surveys are to be made on private lands as well, not just public lands as a reader might infer from Mr. Hopey's column. I can hear it now: "Just a little survey folks; we just want to see what you have here and put it in overall perspective."

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Program.**

If you fall for that one, you should be ashamed. First of all, these are the same kind of people who do the Census. If Government can't even count people right, how is it ever going to count all the plants and animals? And if you haven't heard about "buffer zones," "habitat enhancement measures" or "no development zones," we might as well put you back up on the Turnip Truck! You should come up to Erie County and learn about Natural Heritage Inventories! (the state mini-version of the NBS).

Now I'll get to my point. PLA has achieved great success in alerting Pennsylvania landowners to the dangers of excessive Government land use regulation and environmental extremism. It has also been recognized as the leading advocate and defender of private property rights in Pennsylvania. PLA's early success and recognition was a direct result of its Posting Program. People across Pennsylvania who had become accustomed to accepting the hospitality of landowners for any number of recreational purposes, including hiking, hunting and fishing, were abruptly made aware of landowners' concerns when thousands of acres were posted. The Posting

3. I suspect that persons who are of that mind set don't have a "public" trail running through their backyards.

Program was instrumental in focussing public attention on excessive land use regulation.

In case you haven't noticed, landowners aren't having a whole lot of success in restoring reason and balance to environmental regulation. The trend continues toward expanding (at all levels) government control over land use and the voices of anti-development extremists are still being amplified by the

guess is the Commission doesn't want anyone asking about overregulation or questioning PFC policies at all.

Similarly, another argument used against posting is that individuals who participate may lose the benefits of the liability limitation granted to landowners who allow open access to their land for recreational purposes. That may be so but did you ever notice that if

Posting gets the attention of the people who like to use your land and the bureaucrats who love to regulate it. If enough people complain to their legislators about posting, it may even get their attention too. That is the point of posting.

popular media and listened to by government policy makers. To me, it is difficult to understand why some landowners are reluctant or refuse to participate in the Program.

I know that landowners who have participated in the Posting Program have been criticized and even threatened by individuals and certain groups including persons who purport to speak for the Fish Commission and the Game Commission. PLA believes such opposition to posting should encourage not discourage, landowners to participate in the Program. It means that posting is working. It's drawing attention not only to property rights issues but also to the growing concern of landowners about overregulation.

In typical fashion, the Fish Commission responds to posting by threatening to not stock segments of streams crossing posted property. The theory is that PFC regulations don't allow stocking if access is not open to the public. Isn't it typical of bureaucrats to hide behind their regulations? Do you think it would ever occur to them to change their regulations to recognize property rights? All the Posting Program requires is that persons seeking to use a landowner's property ask his permission (and of course, behave responsibly). Why does that bother the Fish Commission so much? My

Government gives you something, it always takes something back, usually more than it gives you in the first place. In this particular case, Government is trying to entice you to trade one of your fundamental freedoms and important constitutional rights, the right to control who comes in your property. In reality, the liability limitation provision was intended by the General Assembly to open more private land for recreational land use and not to benefit the landowner. Our Government wants to curry favor with voters by making your property open to the public and so it throws you a bone. It sounds a little bit like bread and circuses in the declining years of the Roman Empire, doesn't it?

Posting gets the attention of the people who like to use your land and the bureaucrats who love to regulate it. If enough people complain to their legislators about posting, it may even get their attention too. That is the point of posting. It begins to level the playing field in communication and forces public debate on land use issues. It is one of the few tools ordinary citizens have to communicate. It is an affordable and effective way for you to take a stand for your land and for private property rights.

Henry Ingram is Chairman of the Natural Resources & Environmental Law section of Buchanan Ingersoll, P.C. and has practiced law for over 20 years. Mr. Ingram also serves as legal counsel for PLA. Questions or comments regarding this article or any other legal issue may be directed to Mr. Ingram in Pittsburgh at (412) 562-1695.

FACTS and FICTION of CLEARCUTTING

For many people, forestry is an emotional subject. And of all forestry-related issues, none elicits more emotion than clearcutting. So when groups opposed to forest management seek to further their agenda, it isn't surprising that they focus on clearcutting - often to exploit public misunderstanding and concern.

Recently, the Sierra Club and Earth Island Press published a full color book entitled "Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry." The book purports to show forested sites that have been destroyed by clearcutting. This publication is a broad-based indictment of all scientific and commercially viable management practices, including tree farms, use of heavy equipment and forest road building; it denounces forestry school and the profession which teaches and practices modern forestry; and it dismisses the important role played by private property rights and free enterprise in forest renewal. The book contains many distortions, omissions and misinformation.

After thoroughly viewing the sites featured in "Clearcut," the American Forest and Paper Association documented these distortions in considerable detail in a publication called a "Closer Look." A "Closer Look" sets the record straight and addresses the practice of clearcutting and explains why it is viewed by professional foresters as an appropriate forest management practice for regrowing certain species which require sunlight. This publication tells quite a different story from the one told by the Sierra Club- facts that show how good forestry perpetuates healthy, diverse forests. Several myths that surround clearcutting and forest management, which reinforces the application of modern, scientific forestry practices that enable the United States to grow more trees than it uses, are also addressed.

To purchase "Closer Look" or for further information contact the American Forest &

"Posting For Support"

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If after reading our cover story you're *still not* convinced "Posting for Support" is a valuable tool in helping to protect *your* property rights and *your* organization, listen to just a few of the comments generated by other supporting members who have found the program to be beneficial in more ways than one.

In addition, take note of a few outstanding members who have not only given their support through their own PLA membership, but who also believe that the work being done by PLA is so important and the issues are so critical that they have chosen to extend their commitment to property rights by purchasing memberships for clients, employees and friends whom they believe need to know about current land use issues and the only state organization specifically dedicated to protecting landowners' rights.



John Baka

JOHN BAKA

John Baka, who is a forester for Brookville Wood Products, Inc., in Jefferson County states, "As buyers of standing timber, we at Brookville Wood Products, Inc. send a subscription of *Pennsylvania Landowner* to all property owners from whom we have purchased timber because

owners, large or small. *Pennsylvania Landowner* is informative and enlightens all of us to federal and state legislation pertaining to such matters as wetlands and other important matters in our own state as well as keeping us abreast of what is happening in other states."



Cliff Troyer

CLIFF TROYER

In Erie County, Cliff Troyer of Troyer Potato Products has been a strong advocate of PLA's Posting for Support program as well as endorsing an additional initiative by purchasing PLA memberships for Troyer employees and their spouses.

Since Cliff believes in the efforts of the grassroots' movement and specifically the goals and objectives of PLA, he advances the PLA agenda by offering complimentary memberships to each and every employee and their spouse. Through this exemplary program, PLA is able to educate and solicit the efforts of a significant number of individuals. Cliff says, "I realize the importance of educating individuals regarding the infringement upon our private property rights regardless of whether you are a landowner or not. It will be advantageous for employees to have a better understanding of these issues and how they affect each of us, which are defined in membership materials and PLA publications."

As a founding member of the organization, and also a fervent supporter and participant since the posting program was initiated

success in the program. Through educating and promoting balance and common sense concerning environmental land use issues, Cliff and other family members encourage PLA membership prior to granting individuals access to their property. Implementation of this policy has provided land use education for a large number of recreationalists and sportsmen as well as contributing much needed revenue for the continued efforts of the association. Cliff says, "Once educated about government land use over-regulation, the willingness to join our efforts annually is very encouraging."

STEVEN AND MELISSA BUSSARD

"We joined PLA several years ago and began Posting for Support due to the fact we agree with PLA on land use regulations, loss of private property rights and over taxation," stated Melissa Bussard. Melissa and her husband Steven reside in Six Mile Run, Bedford County. Steven is self employed as a logger and tree farmer. "It was our intention to encourage others to become involved. We have 200+ acres around our home posted and have had phone calls asking about what these posters meant. On one occasion, we had a woman stop at the end of our lane to read our sign and



"...no person shall...be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation."

— ARTICLE V, U.S. CONSTITUTION

get our phone number. She later called for additional information. Although the woman only owned 10 acres and her son owned 25 acres, they were both interested in the program. Through PLA posting signs, it provided the opportunity to discuss PLA involvement and I was able to emphasize that her property was just as important as other large tracts."

GREG AND GALEN SNOWMAN

Greg and Galen Snowman of Potter County own and operate a 700-acre potato and oat farm.

Says Greg, "We're happy to belong to an organization that fights for landowners' property rights and we support it through the posting program. It reinforces to the people the idea that it's a privilege, and not a right, to use our property. It also gives them a better understanding of the problems we face due to our government's over-regulation of private property."

THOMAS FOSTER

Illustrated in the above photograph is Thomas Foster of Westtown, Pennsylvania, whose wife Eva operates Goose Creek Farm, a small poultry farm on the outskirts of suburban Philadelphia in Chester County.



Thomas Foster

Says Eva, "Chester County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation and the wealthiest in the state. Most of the people I've met are well-educated, white collar, environmentally conscious yuppies. When we bought our property, it was called a swamp and the government helped to fill it in. Today, it is something they claim should be revered and protected. Consequently, the local yuppies feel our property is open space and they walk their dogs on it, cross country ski over it, take flowers from it and occasionally dump trash on it. There have actually been occasions when I have been working and was stopped by a total stranger and asked what I was doing to the 'wetland'!

These are the motivating factors of why I decided to participate in PLA's Posting for Support program. And although many of these 'yuppies' see our signs and ignore them, arrogantly assuming that it must apply to someone else, we continue to try to make individuals aware that our property is private, that it is a privilege to use (with permission) and that landowners across the country are being treated unfairly.

Also, I believe our legislators need to be consistently reminded of our guaranteed constitutional rights. Even Chester County's state senator, Earl Baker, changed his position on private property rights when his environ-

ROBERT C. MCCOLLY, ACF

Robert C. McColly, ACF, President of Forest Land Services, Inc. of Ligonier in Westmoreland County states, "I have been asked by the PLA to discuss why my firm purchases one-year PLA memberships for new clients.

The vast majority of my clients are comprised of private non-industrial forest land owners. Most manage their timberland for investment purposes, and for wildlife and recreation. Regardless of their reason for owning timberland, they all are faced with two major realities which accompany that ownership. One is that it takes decades to grow a hardwood stand to maturity, and consequently the return on their investment can take years to recoup. The second is that, with ownership, comes fixed costs in the form of property taxes, maintenance expenses, management expenses, etc., which are always present and ever increasing. I feel it is essential that my clients, who have so much invested in growing timber and whose investment is subject to long-term risks, such as insect infestation, fire, etc., be kept informed and educated on all developments which could affect their ability to successfully manage and nurture their forests.

As local, state and federal government regulations, such as the Endangered Species Act, Scenic Rivers Act, etc. continue to increase in number, my clients' ability to effectively and properly manage their timberlands decreases. It is imperative that they know the consequences of these acts, and just as imperative that they know how to fight for better and fairer legislation. I feel that the PLA membership offers them this badly needed educational resource. I have been a private consulting forester for nearly 20 years and there is only one thing I am sure of... if the individual landowners don't stand up for their right to own private property, as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, they will soon lose that right and our country, as a whole, will suffer the consequences. The small amount that their memberships cost is, to me, the best investment in



BAD NEWS

Do You Consider Yourself Equal To an Animal?

In spite of growing awareness and opposition to the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, which possibly is the most dangerous international legislation ever introduced, the Senate was scheduled to vote for possible ratification of this treaty in mid-August. However, due to tremendous grassroots efforts, consideration has been postponed until after the fall senatorial recess. Since a limited extension of time has been provided, citizens need to urge their U.S. Senators not to support the treaty as it currently includes undefined commitments to be decided by environmental extremists.

If this treaty is ratified, significant questions which infringe upon our national sovereignty, intellectual property rights and our nation's financial resources are left to be answered by unelected bureaucrats. In its present state, it is an unfinished document that only provides the framework in which radical preservationists will fill in the specific language. Furthermore, the treaty is based on poor science, and the established language equates human beings with animals. Ultimately, this document will force the U.S. to surrender its national authority on issues related to "ecosystem management" and "sustainable development." Through ratification of this treaty, the standard of living will be drastically reduced for the American people.

Federal Land-Use Control Through Ecosystem Management

The federal government is preparing to take control of the use of all land in America, both public and private, through a new administrative policy known as "ecosystem management." A special White House task force has been created to oversee the creation and administration of a new Interagency Ecosystem Management Coordinating Group (IEMCG), which will focus the resources of 20 federal agencies to achieve "comprehensive integrated resource management" on an ecosystem basis.

The policy of Ecosystem Management has been under development since the presidential election and will assume a priority equal to the protection of human health, according to EPA documents. Establishment will come by Executive Order, not by Congress, and is currently scheduled to be officially announced before September 30, 1994.

The Ecosystem Management Plan brings to fruition a biocentric philosophy which believes human life has no greater value than any other life form. With the implementation of this plan, private property rights will be completely overlooked. The federal government will have secured absolute control of every square inch of land in America, both public and private, *without a single Congressional debate on the issue of federal land-use control.*

Grassroots Efforts Have Environmental Community on the Alert

Since many of our most important environmental laws are due to be renewed in Congress, including the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act, the environmental community has been wag-

Hollywood fame serving as President, the League of Conservation Voters, National Wildlife Federation, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, National Audubon Society, The Wilderness Society, Zero Population Growth, Greenpeace and several other organizations recently sent their members information asking them to contact their senators representatives and the President to urge their support for stronger environmental laws and to oppose three anti-environmental arguments they classify as the "unholy trinity"—takings, risk assessment, and unfunded mandates.

As the environmental community has been increasing its efforts on Capitol Hill, its equally important that we redouble our efforts to educate Members of Congress about these significant issues and to express our support for our leaders in Congress who advocate common sense and balance through environmental legislation. To ensure that legislators are not being misled by the environmental faction, it is critical that lawmakers continue to hear from YOU regarding YOUR position on environmental laws.

GOOD NEWS

Casey Signs Deep Mining Mediation Bill Offers Comprehensive Subsidence Protection for Surface Owners While Improving Access to Underground Reserves

With his signature on June 22, Governor Robert P. Casey enacted a bill that resolves long-standing issues of property rights in the Pennsylvania coalfields. The Deep Mining Mediation Bill - now Act 54 - passed both the House and Senate by unanimous votes earlier in the month.

A summary of Act 54's reforms to the 1966 mining law includes:

Mining Impediments Removed

Arbitrary standards that prevented or limited coal mining under certain structures are replaced with a comprehensive plan that compensates surface property owners for any subsidence damages to their structure and water supplies.

Structural Repairs Expanded

Coal operators must repair or compensate owners of all dwellings, public buildings, agricultural structures and certain industrial, commercial and recreational buildings for subsidence damages from active mining. Previous law covered only a limited class of structures built prior to 1966.

Repair and compensation is based on replacement value of affected structures, not the lower fair market value employed by current case law and insurance practice.

Operators must also pay surface owners for all incidental expenses including temporary relocation. Operators must prevent hazards to human safety and irreparable damage to certain buildings.

Water Replacement Guarantees

Operators of underground coal mines must restore or replace private, public, industrial, commercial, recreational or agricultural water supplies that may be contaminated, diminished or interrupted by active mining.

Operators are presumed responsible for any water impacts within a designated area around an active mine. Beyond that area, they will be held responsible if it can be shown that mining actually caused the problem.

E.P.A. Gives D.E.R. Ultimatum On Stream Designations

ON JUNE 6, 1994, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gave Pennsylvania 90 days to show how it would bring the state's streams regulations into compliance with federal standards. If the state fails to respond, the EPA will begin rewriting the state's regulations, which they claim they have been asking the state Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to revise since 1989.

According to Caren Grotfelty, DER deputy secretary for water management, the state's existing regulations are adequate to protect all the state's waterways. "We have a disagreement on what is degradation. The state says you can have a discharge into a stream if the volume is low enough or stream dilution is high enough so that overall water quality is not lowered," she said. "The EPA is saying no discharges. We don't think there is backing for that position in the federal regulations."

According to the Raymond Proffitt Foundation, if federal water quality rules are applied in Pennsylvania, an additional 27,500 miles of the state's rivers, streams, and creeks would receive special protection. Currently, special designation status has been given to about 27% of the state's 50,000 miles of rivers and streams, with 12,800 miles of waterways designated high quality and an additional 1,000 miles listed as exceptional value. The foundation filed a lawsuit against the EPA in April of this year to make the agency enforce federal clean water standards in the state and shortly thereafter, the EPA's rejection of Pennsylvania's stream program was issued.

Preservationists have long been battling to see French Creek listed as exceptional value

which would carry additional regulations either prohibiting or drastically curtailing most future land use within the watershed. But so far PLA has been able to disseminate enough information regarding the proposed designation to landowners and other citizens which has resulted in growing retaliation to the designation. According to a recent Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article, Dr. Robert Concilus, president of the Conneaut Lake & French Creek Valley Conservancy, said the DER "doesn't want to take on a property rights group, the Pennsylvania Landowners' Association, that fears greater protection of the stream will restrict land use. The conservancy hasn't pushed the issue." He added, "Certainly French Creek meets the criteria for high quality, and in some sections exceptional value, but the DER has asked us not to request that because it would make their ability to protect the stream more difficult. We're trying not to set up a political confrontation here."

As for EPA's ultimatum to the DER, which will undoubtedly result in more regulations affecting the use of private property, landowners can thank former Philadelphia-based Congressman, Peter Kostmayer, who lost re-election in 1992. As some of you may know, Mr. Kostmayer was the prime sponsor of several legislative initiatives which totally ignored private property rights, such as legislation seeking addition of several Pennsylvania rivers to the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. Thanks to the Clinton administration, after his defeat, Mr. Kostmayer was appointed as EPA regional administrator.

Editors Note: Does this give you reason to join POSTING FOR SUPPORT?

Old Order Amish and Mennonites Proposed As Endangered Species

APETITION filed with the Federal Interior Department proposes to list the Old Order Amish and Mennonites as endangered. The Federal Endangered Species Act allows the listing of isolated populations of mammals, and the petition claims that these people qualify for protection.

The petition was mailed to the Secretary of Interior, Bruce Babbitt, on August 10, 1994. He has 90 days to decide whether the petition has any merit.

William Hazeltine, Ph.D., the petition writer, is an environmental consultant who believes that the law should be applied consistently.

"The Endangered Species Act seems to cover humans, because they are mammals, and the Act clearly covers all mammals without limitation" Hazeltine stated. "My purpose in petitioning was in no way intended to distrust these dedicated people because I admire their fortitude to do what they think is right. I wanted to get some attention given to the need to preserve a unique human population's lifestyle with as much vigor as is presently given to preserving some population of rat or beaver or bird. If these people cannot qualify, then the law needs to be amended so humans can qualify, or the standards to list any 'species' should be made more stringent. The Amish and Mennonite people should be admitted to practicing what they believe, and they deserve Federal protection to be able to live as they desire. They are a more valuable part of our National Heritage than some bird or beetle at some historic site."

The Endangered Species Act allows listing of any identifiable population of mammals, and the Amish and the Mennonites seem to qualify. In place of genetic isolation, these people are isolated by their customs and culture.

In the past, the Interior Department rejected a petition by the Samish Indian Tribe asking that they be listed as endangered. The reasons given for refusing to list this tribe was that they are not "wild." However, this rejection depends on a definition in the regulations which is not consistent with the definition in the Act.

Once listed, all agencies of the federal government would be obliged to do everything necessary to assure the survival of the listed population or species. The law would protect these people from harassment or other forms of outside interference.



Fly-In for Freedom

Grassroots advocates unite in Washington, DC, September 17-21 for the 4th Annual Fly-In for Freedom. PLA Board members will join hundreds from around the nation to urge legislators to preserve private property rights and to provide reasonable environmental protection. It is not too late for you to join the workshops, panel discussions and lobbying efforts. Call PLA today for more information at (814) 796-3578.

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Please indicate: New Member Renewal

- INDIVIDUAL I** 25.00
Any individual supportive of private property rights
(owning 0 to 15 acres)
- INDIVIDUAL II** 35.00
(owning 16 to 100 acres)
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(owning 101 to 250 acres)
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(owning 251 to 500 acres)
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- ASSOCIATE I** 100.00
Any business entity supporting the free
enterprise system and the principle of private
ownership (*local businesses in communities*)
- ASSOCIATE II** 250.00
Trade Associations (*state organizations
supportive of private property rights*)
- ASSOCIATE III** 300.00
Major suppliers to land use entities (*resource
development, construction, agriculture*)
- AFFILIATE** 50.00
Local or regional grass roots, non-profit
organizations
- BUSINESS I** 750.00
Corporations or other business entities whose
activities involve ownership, use and/or
development of acreage in excess of 100 acres
but less than 500 acres.
- BUSINESS II** 1,250.00
Same as I but in excess of 500 acres

Any land owning member (*excluding Individual I*) purchasing PLA signs and participating in the "Posting For Support" program is entitled to a 50% reduction in membership fees for the current membership year.

POSTING FOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

Yes, I wish to become a participant in this program.
Please send me _____ signs.

I have enclosed 60¢ for each sign ordered.

- I am a current participant in the
"Posting for Support" program.
- I am a new participant in the
"Posting for Support" program.

USA v. Brace & Brace Farms Videotape (VHS)—

"One farmer's battle with federal wetland provisions."
\$15.00 donation.

Wetlands Videotape (VHS) Part I Part II

"Our Environment, Whose Property?"
\$15.00 Donation each.

Please complete this information:

Name _____

Address _____

County _____

Acreage Owned _____

Phone Number (_____) _____

Township _____

How many acres of land posted? _____ acres

Membership Amount \$ _____

Less 50% reduction in fee if
"Posting for Support" participant - \$ _____

Amount of signs purchased + \$ _____

Additional contribution (if any) + \$ _____

Total remittance enclosed \$ _____

**Membership dues and contributions may be deductible as
a "Business" expense. Please consult your tax advisor
regarding your particular situation.**

Enclose form with check or money order payable to:

Pennsylvania Landowners' Association

P. O. Box 391

Waterford, PA 16441

Please allow up to 4 weeks for delivery of membership card.

Pennsylvania Landowners' Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 391
Waterford, PA 16441

Address Correction Requested

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 7
Waterford, PA