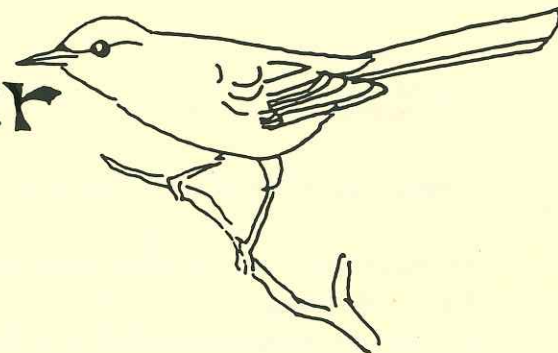


The Gnatcatcher



Newsletter of the
Juniata Valley Audubon Society

P.O. Box 2378, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16603

April 1995

April Brings Earth Day 25

Please put these two items on your green agenda this month — in honor of the 25th observance of Earth Day: (1) to contact Congressman Bud Shuster's office and tell him you support **strengthening** — not weakening — the Clean Water Act, and (2) to write a letter to the editor of your newspaper indicating such.

As you may know, a bill headed for the House floor would curtail wetlands protection and shift water pollution responsibilities to states and localities. Critics, according to the Clinton administration, called the measure a retreat after 25 years of improvements in protecting the nation's lakes and rivers from pollution.

"Those who wanted a rollback . . . got most of what they wanted," said Rep. Norman Mineta, D-Calif., after he failed in a last-ditch effort to kill the sweeping legislation.

The bill, approved 43-16 on Thursday, Apr. 6, by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, now goes to the House floor.

The measure received bipartisan support, including the votes of about half the committee's Democrats, but other Democrats repeatedly attacked it as a cave-in to industry pressures to ease federal water pollution controls.

Mineta and fellow Democrats accused committee chairman Bud Shuster, R-Pa., of allowing industry lobbyists to write critical sections of the bill. Shuster responded that the bill only reflects the public's irritation over burdensome and costly regulations and a desire to shift more water pollution control decisions to the states and local agencies. The bill was supported by the nation's governors, mayors, and local water pollution agencies, he said.

The bill would change the way a wetland is defined and would reduce the Environmental Protection Agency's role in enforcing wetlands protection. It also would require the government to

(Cont'd on page 3)

April Program

ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET — Walt Young will present a spectacular slide program entitled "Central Pennsylvania Through the Eyes of a Naturalist." (If you haven't sent your reservations to Amy King by April 16th, then you're too late for this spring's festivities.)

Social hour at 6 p.m. — turkey dinner at 6:30
Monday, Apr. 24 in White Oak Hall at Fort Roberdeau County Park

Field Trips

LOWER TRAIL BIRD WALK with trip leaders Bill King and Dave Kyler (see page 2).

7:30 a.m., Sunday, Apr. 23

BEGINNING BIRDING with trip leader Stan Kotala

2:30 p.m., Sunday, Apr. 23 at Fort Roberdeau County Park

Next Board Meeting

7 p.m., Monday, May 1 at President Stan Kotala's residence. All members are welcome. Phone Stan at 946-8840 for directions.

From the Gnatcatcher's Nest ...

April 22 will be the 25th anniversary of Earth Day. We should use this as an opportunity to celebrate the many accomplishments that conservationists have achieved over the past quarter century. Although there have been some setbacks, we can take comfort in the knowledge that public awareness of conservation issues is very high.

Here in Pennsylvania we are indeed fortunate that previous generations had the foresight to set aside a wonderful state forest system, continually expanding state game lands, and many beautiful state parks. The conservation community in our state is very large and vocal. We have strong ties to our woods and streams through hunting, fishing, bird-watching, hiking, and nature study.

This year let's all celebrate Earth Day by reflecting on the wondrous beauty of nature. Let's spend more time in the woods and fields. Strive to learn more about the natural world. Take actions to benefit the flora and fauna that inhabit the earth along with us. And let's make the commitment to protect the earth from degradation and destruction. Earth is our home. We must take care of it. (K)

Wetlands Threatened Again

Another bill to weaken wetlands protection is now being introduced to the legislature in Harrisburg. Euphemistically titled the "Wetlands Conservation and Management Act," this bill introduced by Rep. Teresa Brown would result in a dramatic increase of wetlands destruction in the state.

The JVAS opposes the Wetlands Conservation and Management Act on the following grounds:

1. It would force Pennsylvania's overburdened taxpayers to pay landowners to obey wetlands laws. This bill calls for the state to pay anyone who is prohibited from destroying wetlands. It classifies the denial of a permit to destroy wetlands as "a compensable injury without a declaration of taking."

2. The bill states that if wetlands destruction on private property requires mitigation, then this must

occur on state game lands or on property owned by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission at the taxpayers' expense. Thus, the sportsmen of the Commonwealth, whose dollars have paid for our public game lands, now will be burdened with the cost of replacing wetlands that have been destroyed by private landowners. The bill also calls for the taxpayers to cover the cost of construction of mitigation wetlands.

3. The bill does not allow counties, townships, or municipalities to have laws any more protective of wetlands than those of this bill.

4. The bill does not allow state guidelines to be any more protective of wetlands than federal guidelines.

5. The fine for violating wetlands protection laws would be only \$300.

This bill sends a strong message that the desire for profiteering through the abuse of Pennsylvania's natural resources is far more important than conservation. If this bill becomes law, all Pennsylvanians will be losers in the long run.

I strongly urge all JVAS members to write a letter opposing Rep. Brown's Wetlands Conservation and Management Act to their state senator and representative.

The address:

The Honorable _____
Pennsylvania House of Representatives / Senate
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

(K)

Send Your Bi Lo/Riverside Receipts to Anne

Bi Lo Foods and Riverside Markets are no longer providing boxes in their stores for the collection of cash register tapes for the Save & Share Fund-Raising Program. The program, which provides donations to nonprofit groups, will continue. However, collection of the tapes will now be handled by the participating groups. Please continue to send tape receipts to Anne Borland, at 138A Larch St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. She redeems the tapes for \$\$\$ for the JVAS treasury. — Ed.

CONSERVATION

O
R
N
E
R

(Cont'd from page 1)

pay landowners if a wetland designation reduces property values. The EPA, the Association of State Wetlands Managers, and environmental groups have said that the proposed changes could reduce the nation's wetlands by more than 50 percent. The bill's supporters contend it only establishes a more reasonable definition to reduce abuses on landowners.

Shuster said the bill calls for increasing the federal revolving fund for water pollution control activities to \$3 billion. That would be more than double this year's funding.

Environmentalists and the Clinton administration strongly criticized the bill, saying it would gut the 1972 Clean Water Act, widely acknowledged to have resulted in significantly reduced pollution in the nation's lakes and rivers.

At the Wetlands/Clean Water press conference held by Clean Water Action on Apr. 5, JVAS Conservation Chair Paula Ford made this statement:

Who in his right mind wouldn't be for a strong Clean Water Act? Congressman Bud Shuster. Even the New York Times has called Bud Shuster's bill the "Dirty Water Act." It's very puzzling. In the past, Congressman Shuster voted for reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. In fact, because of his efforts, we now have two sewage treatment plants in Altoona.

But Bud Shuster's Dirty Water Act would significantly weaken the Clean Water Act. For example, it would remove the Clean Water Act's requirement for pretreatment of toxic wastes. The result would be that all treatment would be done at the sewage treatment plant, passing the costs along to everyone in the system. Taxpayers would pay for removing pollution, instead of polluters themselves.

Another provision of the bill would allow cities on the coast to discharge sewage that has been only partially treated into the ocean. Many people from the 9th Congressional District enjoy their vacations at the beach. If this Dirty Water Act is allowed to pass, they will be swimming in dirty water.

Some people say that we have to compromise the environment because of the economy; however, many studies have shown that environmental protection creates jobs. For example, during both the construction of Altoona's sewage treatment plants and today in their operation, jobs have been created.

We have world-famous trout streams in our area. When people come to fish in these streams, they stay in our motels, eat in our restaurants, and buy gas at our service stations. They spend money in our local economy. What will happen to the trout streams if this Dirty Water Act is passed?

The Juniata Valley Audubon Society is particularly distressed at the changes Bud Shuster wants in the wetlands section of the Clean Water Act. By using an unscientific definition of wetlands, this bill would remove protection for over half of the nation's remaining wetlands. Even parts of the Everglades and the Great Dismal Swamp, both national treasures, would not be protected any more.

The bill would provide special exemptions for numerous special interests such as oil and gas drillers. It would create windfalls for land speculators at the taxpayers' expense. Agencies that try to protect wetlands would have to pay landowners who are denied permits, and then other damaging activities would still be allowed!

In drafting this legislation, Bud Shuster did not receive input from the Environmental Protection Agency or any environmental groups. This Dirty Water Act was written by the polluters, for the polluters. It's a disgrace.

Look around you. What do we have that makes this area special? We have forests. We have space. We have rivers and streams. It's time we treated them like the valuable treasures they are. A real Clean Water Act would be a good start.

Editor's Note: Paula Ford is being labeled as an "environmental extremist" for her lone voice speaking out on behalf of the JVAS on this matter. Bud Shuster needs to hear from a lot of our members. He needs to hear from you! Call his local office at 946-1653 or write to him at 2188 Rayburn Bldg., Washington, DC 20515.

Please do it for Earth Day 25!

Lower Trail SAP Update

The March Special Areas Project bird census on the Lower Trail now has the master list at 41 species and counting. Added on the March 26 outing were the following: rock dove, eastern phoebe, wood duck, cowbird, red-winged blackbird, northern flicker, field sparrow, turkey vulture, house finch, American goldfinch, and sharp-shinned hawk.

Highlights of the trip were singing winter wrens, wood duck pairs looking for nesting cavities in the streamside sycamore trees, and more than 30 eastern phoebes (!) calling from the trailside. Spring definitely has arrived!

Our April walk will be held Sunday, Apr. 23 starting at 7:30 a.m. from the Williamsburg trailhead with leader Bill King and from the Alexandria trailhead with leader Dave Kyler. Please call Bill (942-7673) or Dave (643-6030) so that we know how many "trail tramps" to expect. Hope to see you there!

— DK

A Baby Shower!

Robyn Graboski is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator in Lemont. Last year she worked with more than 170 animals. In the spring she often has a full house of baby birds and other animals. She is always in need of supplies to help her rehabilitate these injured and sick wild animals.

This spring when you're doing your spring cleaning, please consider recycling materials on her "wish list" (below), or when you're shopping add an extra item or two to your cart. You can bring the items to either the April or May JVAS meeting, and Paula Ford will deliver them to Robyn. Or call Paula (695-4799) and make arrangements to have your donations picked up.

Wish list:

- baby receiving blankets, old cloth diapers (great bedding)
- towels, sheets, blankets
- paper towels
- pet water bottles
- thermometers of any kind
- heating pads
- pet dishes
- 5- or 10-gal. aquariums

- Dawn dish detergent
- perfume-free laundry detergent
- Clorox
- antibacterial hand soap
- 33-gal. plastic bags
- newspapers
- aquarium heaters
- aquarium lights and/or hoods (great for reptiles)
- pet carriers of any size
- extension cords
- light bulbs — 25-, 40-, 100-watt
- red party bulbs — 25-watt (great heat lamp for sick animals and bats)
- leftover pet foods of any kind
- canned or jarred baby food of any kind (especially meats or fruits)
- milk replacer of any kind
- canned milk

— PF

Spring Song

Among my favorites of classical music is Felix Mendelsohn's "Spring Song." How well I remember hearing and enjoying it for the first time in my ninth-grade music class.

Early this spring I heard another "spring song" — not of the world of mankind, but of the world of feathered folk. It was in the afternoon of a cloudy, cold March day. I had finished filling the bird feeder and walked down to the lower part of the back yard. As I stood there my attention was attracted by the sweet, musical notes of a bird song coming from somewhere. I looked up among the branches of the big, high maple tree in the lower corner of the yard, an old pear tree nearby, and across the alley to the branches of a neighbor's spruce tree. Not a bird was to be seen.

My curiosity just had to be satisfied. I moved closer to the maple tree. Finally, I spotted the little, feathered songster hidden from view by a telephone pole. It was my little friend, the Song Sparrow. He wore a brown-striped suit and had a brown medalion on his breast. There he was, perched on a top limb of a young locust tree across the alley.

I watched him as he sang. From his little throat a melody poured forth that was loud, clear, and sweet. I stood there enjoying that beautiful music. Then, a freight train rumbled noisily down the railroad yards. But despite all that hum and roar, my little singer sat on the locust limb and kept on singing.

— Rachel Chipperfield

Ornithologists to Be Guests at JVAS Banquet

Valeria Crowder, and Argentine ornithologist, and Nancy Keeler, Director of Development at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, will be joining us at our spring banquet. They both will be available before and after the festivities to discuss with any interested JVAS member their work with the wildlife of Argentina and the raptors on Hawk Mountain.

Recently the JVAS International Issues Interest Group received Board approval to use the remainder of its grant money to provide support for a Latin American intern at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

Ms. Crowder arrived in Pennsylvania at the beginning of April and will stay through early August; she is working primarily with Hawk Mountain biologist Laurie Goodrich in her ornithological research. In her own country Ms. Crowder has worked with peregrine falcons and pumas, and she has experience and training in horticultural work.

— BB

Celebrate the Return of Neotropical Migrants

This year's North American Migration Count will take place on Saturday, May 13. Its purpose is to map the paths taken by Neotropical migrant birds from Central and South America to their breeding grounds by obtaining a "snapshot" of the process of spring migration.

If you plan to do any birding in *Blair County* on May 13, please use the official checklist to record the numbers of individuals of each species you see. Give Blair County NAMC Coordinator Stan Kotala a holler at 946-8840 and he'll mail you a checklist with instructions for its use and return. — Ed.

***Don't forget to send your
Bi Lo and Riverside Markets
cash register tapes
to Anne Borland!***

BOOK REVIEW



A Geography of Pennsylvania

Edited by E. Willard Miller

1995, The Pennsylvania State University Press
\$25, pb

This is a book both behind and ahead of the times. Since the contributors to this volume are all professors in Penn State's Department of Geography — one of the best in the country — they possess ample knowledge and chutzpah to produce what's become a real anachronism: a regional geography. And by comparison with some of the other attempts that have been made along this line recently (Utah, Texas), Miller et al have done a yeoman's job.

The finest chapters are those by Pierce Lewis and Wilbur Zelinski. Lewis in particular is a master of the written word. His chapter (coauthored with Ben Marsh) on "Landforms and Human Habitat" tells the geologic story of Pennsylvania more clearly and concisely than any other account I've read. Lewis's introductory chapter, moreover, should be required reading for all Pennsylvania-philis; the title, "American Roots in Pennsylvania Soil," hints at his theme: PA as America in microcosm, a place with astonishingly little regional identity, even as it established many of the social, cultural, and political patterns for America's heartland.

Many of the chapters by other authors, however — including the editor's — are barely adequate, and struck me [Mark] as somewhat reminiscent of schoolbook geographies such as were popular in the twenties. For environmentalists and other assorted "nature freaks," the most disappointing aspect of this geography is its relentless anthropocentrism. What little mention it makes of nature and wildlife is subsumed under headings like "Forest Resources" (an abysmal chapter) and "Recreation and Tourism." Still, activists might want to check out the sections on politics and industry, not to mention the two concluding chapters, which deal with Philly and Pittsburgh, respectively — some really interesting nuggets of information.

Mark says: The maps are very well done and clear, though after a while the use of county outlines as background became annoying to me. Dave says: Maybe so, but I noticed that the map of hiking trails in Pennsylvania is at least 15 years out of date.

For all its flaws, if *A Geography of Pennsylvania* manages to instill a stronger sense of place in its readers, it certainly will have justified its existence. Let's hope that future editions will better address the breadth of natural diversity in Penn's Woods.

— Mark and Dave Bonta

FIRST FLOWERS OF SPRING: COLTSFOOT



Coltsfoot, *Tussilago farfara* L., woodcut from MATTIOLI's Herbal, (commentaries on DIOSCORIDES), Venice, 1565.

Coltsfoot (*Tussilago*—meaning, in Latin, "I relieve a cough") is certainly one of our earliest-blooming wild-flowers in Pennsylvania.

Growing as it does in waste places, raw excavations, and along unkempt road-margins, Coltsfoot is easy to see, its bright yellow flower-heads suggesting Dandelions to the uninitiated, though without the strong rosette of basal leaves that is so characteristic of Dandelions. Later on, after they have set seed, with seed-heads not unlike those of Dandelion, Coltsfoot plants finally produce large, broad elevated leaves, of an outline said to resemble the impression of a small horse's hoof in soft earth. Sometimes they are as big as hoof-prints of the largest draft-horse. A plethora of names referring to this leaf-shape runs through centuries of herbal and folk-botany literature, and one of the most useful compilations of popular names for plants (LYONS, 1900) includes 21 popular names for *Tussilago farfara*, our familiar Coltsfoot.

In addition to our plant having many popular names (less

suitably referred to as "common names" since many of them are decidedly uncommon) quite a few other plants are recorded as being called Coltsfoot *somewhere*. These include *Caltha palustris*—familiar as Marsh-marigold; *Asarum canadense*—Wild Ginger; *Nuphar lutea*—Spatterdock; *Galax aphylla*—called Galax everywhere (3 or more towns are named for it); *Shortia galacifolia*—Oconee Bells; and *Glechoma hederacea*—most often known as Gill-over-the-ground but more quaintly as Creeping Charley. All are recorded in literature as having been called Coltsfoot, and a similarity in leaf-shape runs through all of them.



Dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale* L., woodcut from ZWINGER's herbal, Basel, 1743.

Like the common, weedy Dandelion, our non-native Coltsfoot arrived from the Old World early in the colonization of North America. Valued as a cough remedy just as Dandelion was cherished as a food-plant, Coltsfoot was probably carried deliberately by early colonists. The kind of habitats which it has prolifically colonized save it from being a "Pest-plant" in the same category as Dandelion—bane of many who worship exquisitely manicured lawns.

This writer didn't think about Coltsfoot until he was trans-

planted to central Pennsylvania in 1954. This was a time of sweeping major "improvements" to roads, streets and underground utilities. Soon after excavations were refilled Coltsfoot sprang up on the disturbed soil, reminding him of the resurrection of *Galinsoga* (a plant not native in England) in the bomb craters of London during and after the Blitz.

Coltsfoot was known to the ancients under the same Latin name that prevails today, and appears thus in the earliest herbals—books of plants esteemed for their reputed medicinal and other practical uses. On the outside of this issue of *BARTRAMIA* appear woodcut illustrations of *Tussilago* from the Latin herbal of DIOSCORIDES, Frankfurt, 1543 (L); the English herbal of GERARD, 1633 (center); and the German herbal of ZWINGER, 1743 (R).

In GERARD's Herbal of 1633 smoking the dried leaves of *Tussilago* "in manner as they take tobacco" is strongly recommended for respiratory disorders; and in CULPEPPER's notably popular herbal, published in more than 100 editions beginning in 1652, are recommendations for Coltsfoot similar to GERARD's. However, the death of the Irish mystical poet, "Æ" (George W. Russell), was attributed in part to smoking Coltsfoot.

"COLT's FOOT" is included as a cough remedy in the first North American herbal [the first American herbal is the Aztec Herbal of 1552], by SAMUEL STEARNS, 1801, but smoking it is not suggested. RAFINESQUE, in 1830, defended the medicinal value of Coltsfoot, then in disrepute, but this plant was not included in the 1820—1st, or any subsequent, edition of the *U.S. Pharmacopoeia*, nor in most American herbal literature since then.

Talon-Drop

Some days outside are simply better than others and March 7 was one of those days. It certainly didn't look promising when I was awakened near seven by the "tut-tuts" of robins and looked out at a foggy dawn. But shortly after eight, Dave came in to announce, "They're back!" Seventy red-winged blackbirds sat in the black walnut trees calling and talking and they remained there for a quarter of an hour or more before swirling off in the mist.

Later in the morning I walked along Laurel Ridge Trail to the drumming of woodpeckers and then I heard the approaching voices of Canada geese. Thirty-seven geese skimmed the treetops overhead, emerging from the mist and then disappearing again, their disembodied voices lingering in the air.

Resting along the Far Field Road bank, I heard a ruffed grouse drumming and saw foraging black-capped chickadees, tufted titmice, and a brown creeper while overhead American crows and a common raven fled from their harassment. Chipmunks, which had been out since the beginning February, continued to chirp and call wherever I walked.

By early afternoon, it had warmed up to 57 degrees with a period of sunshine and partial blue

skies. I sat out on the veranda and could hear, but not see, ring-billed gulls calling. Then, as the sun shone brighter, I heard the first bluebird songs. The yard birds were in a frenzy of joy — calling, singing, and chasing. Mourning doves cooed for the first time.

By Marcia Bonta

Late in the afternoon, after a March wind picked up, a pair of red-tailed hawks, emitting what sounded to me like tin horn calls, but what the experts refer to as their "chwerk-calls," circled above Sapsucker Ridge off and on. Then one landed in what looked like the remnants of an old nest while the other kept flying overhead, circling, calling, and landing in nearby treetops, its legs extended downward. I was watching the so-called "talon-drop" display that red-tails perform to defend their territory or in courtship. Finally they moved off toward the clear-cut area, heralded by the ever-vigilant crows.

Altogether such a day renewed my faith that spring was on its way. Not only had I seen the usual early-spring birds, but I had observed a new (to me) bird behavior — the talon-drop. It is that aspect of nature — that although I can rely on the sameness of the seasons, I can also count on seeing something new — that keeps me watching throughout the year in all kinds of weather.



The article on the facing page is a reprint from *Bartramia*, newsletter of the Pennsylvania Native Plant Society (PNPS). The PNPS is a comprehensive membership organization for the benefit of everyone who cares about the wildflowers and plants of Pennsylvania and the surrounding region; and for the benefit of Pennsylvania Botany and the floral heritage of Pennsylvania, and wildflowers, trees, and shrubs everywhere.

The PNPS offers member a wide array of benefits for annual dues of only \$10: field trips in all parts of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, guided by leaders with good botanical knowledge; guided trips to nature preserves, arboreta, and museums; annual wildflower pilgrimage; educational and workshop sessions, including those for children; lectures and slide programs relating to Pennsylvania's flora; *Bartramia*, the PNPS newsletter; publications; linkage with government agencies, conservancies, colleges, universities, and museums.

For more information about the PNPS write to the Pennsylvania Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 281, State College, PA 16804-0281. Or phone Maggie Harlan after 5 p.m. or weekends at (814) 349-5029.

Sweet are the sounds that mingle from afar,
Heard by calm lakes, as peeps the folding star,
Where the duck dabbles 'mid the rustling sedge,
And feeding pike starts from the water's edge,
Or the swan stirs the reeds, his neck and bill
Wetting, that drip upon the water still;
And heron, as resounds the trodden shore,
Shoots upward, darting his long neck before.

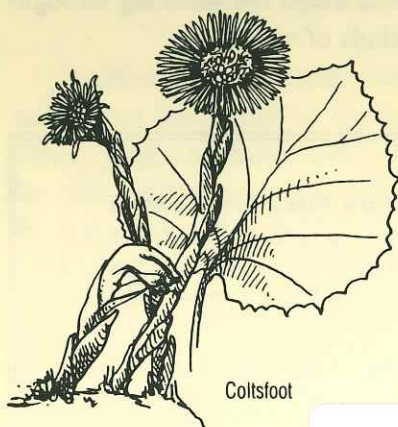
— WILLIAM WORDSWORTH
An Evening Walk

EDITOR'S NOTE: The deadline for May's issue of *The Gnatcatcher* is May 8. Please submit articles to editor Charlie Hoyer, P.O. Box 32, Tyrone, PA 16686-0032.

PRINTED BY WICK COPY CENTER, 503 E. PLANK RD., ALTOONA

Juniata Valley Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2378
Altoona, PA 16603

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Altoona, Pa.
Permit No. 238



Charles A. Hoyer
Newsletter Editor, JVAS
P.O. Box 32
Tyrone

PA 16686-0032



JOIN THE PLEDGE FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

Did Americans vote for dismantling 25 years of environmental legislation last November? We don't think so, but the majority in Congress seems to think we did. A truly alarming anti-environmental agenda is hurtling through Congress, and unless there is a strong public protest, 25 years of environmental protection may be in shreds by the end of the year. At stake is protection for clean water, clean air, wetlands and endangered species.

Join us in a citizens campaign calling for a renewed commitment to environmental protection in the U.S. This spring, citizens across the country are launching an Environmental Bill of Rights pledge drive and National Audubon Society is joining in the campaign. We are offering to collect thousands of pledges to the Environmental Bill of Rights and, together with other environmental organizations and citizen groups, present them to Congress in mid-July.

Please take a moment to sign the attached pledge to the Environmental Bill of Rights and send it to Audubon's Washington, D.C., office before July 1. We will join other organizations in presenting at least one million petitions to Congress this summer.

Earth Day, April 22, is a wonderful opportunity to inspire a renewed sense of commitment to protecting our fragile environment. Please help put Earth Day to work for the Earth by participating in the Environmental Bill of Rights pledge drive. To obtain additional petition sheets, call Audubon's Chapter Services Hotline at (800) 542-2748.

★ ★ ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS ★ ★

EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE RIGHT TO A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

We urge all elected officials — local, state and federal — to protect that right. We oppose any measures that would roll back the environmental progress of the last 25 years. We commit ourselves to supporting the following simple principles, and will hold public officials who represent us accountable for their stewardship of the planet.

I. PREVENT POLLUTION. Every American is entitled to air, water, food and communities free from toxic chemicals. Government policies and regulatory standards must prevent pollution before it happens, expand citizens' right to know about toxics, and guarantee protection for citizens, particularly for the most vulnerable among us — infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly.

II. PRESERVE AMERICA'S NATIONAL HERITAGE, wild and beautiful, for our children and future generations. Wildlife, forests, mountains, prairies, wetlands, rivers, lakes, coastlines, urban parks and open space are all part of our national heritage.

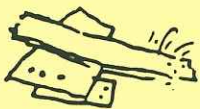
III. END THE GIVE-AWAYS OF PUBLIC ASSETS, such as mineral, timber and grazing resources. End the subsidies for oil and energy companies. Polluters should pay to clean up the mess they create. No one has the right to use property in a way that destroys or degrades the surrounding community. We reject the idea that good neighbors must pay bad ones not to pollute.

IV. CONSERVE AMERICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES by controlling waste, increasing energy efficiency, and protecting against overuse and abuse. Encourage sustainable technologies that meet human needs without destroying the environment.

V. GET THE BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS. No more government for sale. Let's take our government back from the big campaign contributors and exploiters who control it today.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To obtain additional copies of the Environmental Bill of Rights pledge sheet, call (800) 542-2748. Please return signed petitions **BEFORE JULY 1** to: Environmental Bill of Rights, National Audubon Society, 666 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, #200, Washington, DC 20003-4319 TEL: (202) 547-9009 • FAX: (202) 547-9022



Moving Mountains of Trash

4th Annual PA CleanWays Conference

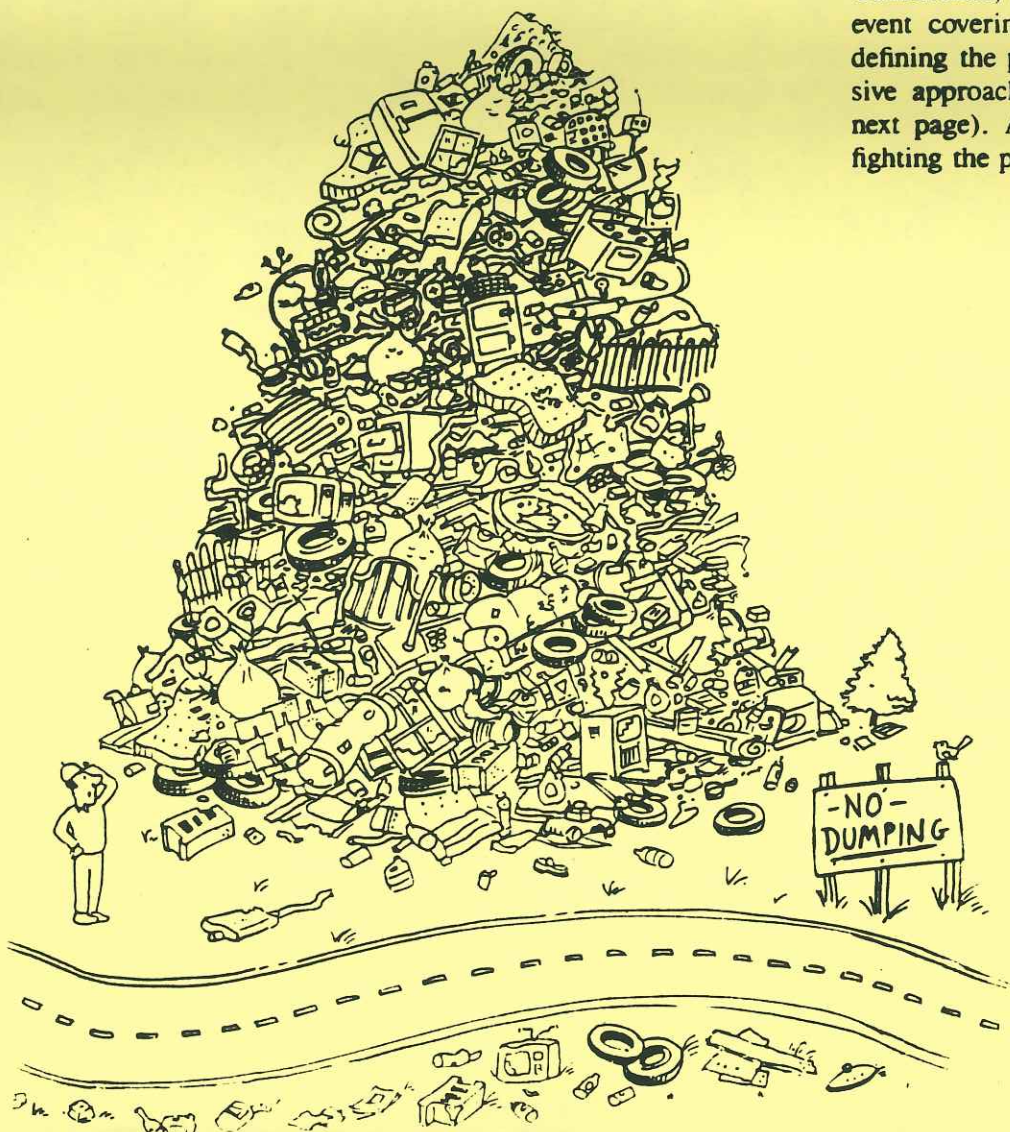


To encourage the development of new chapters of PA CleanWays, a regional meeting and a statewide conference will be held May 18, and 19 respectively at the Ramada Inn in Altoona. The conference is entitled "Moving Mountains of Trash". Everyone who is offended by trash or has a job which deals with the consequences of illegally dumped trash is invited to attend.

Regional Meeting, May 18 - In an effort to promote chapters within their six county region, Southern Alleghenies Resource Conservation and Development (a U.S. Department of Agriculture agency) is working closely with PA CleanWays. Two Southern Alleghenies RC&D counties have PA CleanWays chapters: Somerset County has had a chapter since 1992 and Cambria County started a chapter last fall. The regional meeting is designed to generate interest in starting PA CleanWays chapters in Blair, Bedford, Fulton, and Huntingdon Counties and promoting growth in Somerset and Cambria counties.

The regional meeting, entitled "People Are the Solutions For A Cleaner Environment", begins 7 PM. Agencies, groups, and businesses that deal with waste problems will be described along with PA CleanWays. Tables will be set up with information and displays illustrating various related programs. Awards will be given to individuals, groups, governments, and businesses within Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset Counties who have helped "clean-up" the environment. There is no charge for this meeting.

Conference, May 19 - The conference will be a daylong event covering all aspects of illegal dumping - from defining the problem, to enforcement, to a comprehensive approach to addressing the problem (see agenda next page). Anyone interested in learning more about fighting the problem in their county should attend.



Conference Registration

May 19, 1995

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

County _____

Phone Numbers: _____

(day) _____

(evening) _____

Mail with check to: PA CleanWays,
R.D.#11 Box 631, Greensburg, PA
15601

Registrations by May 5 - \$50

Registrations after May 5 - \$65