

Trend To Relax By Camping

Campers in northcentral Pennsylvania camp primarily for relaxation and to get out into natural surroundings, according to a study at The Pennsylvania State University.

The two factors of relaxing and being in natural surroundings made up 59 per cent of the reasons given for camping, in a study by Richard F. Masse and Dr. Peter W. Fletcher of the School of Forest Resources at Penn State.

The survey analyzed social and economic characteristics of 600 campers in three private and three public campgrounds in the

Pine Creek Watershed of Tioga, Lycoming, Clinton, and Potter counties.

The average camping party spokesman in the Pine Creek Watershed was found to be 39 years old, married, and had nearly nine years of camping experience. At the time of the study, the summer of 1971, the head of the average camping party had an annual income of \$9,300. His average expenditure for camping equipment was \$513. He spent four nights in a campground and his party consisted of four people, two adults and two children.

Tents, collapsible tent trailers, and travel trailers collectively accounted for 81 per cent of the shelter equipment used. These three types of equipment were almost equal in popularity. While \$513 was the average cost of camping equipment, 51 per cent of the campers reported investments over \$1,000.

The study was made as a result of the increasing demand for camping facilities. For example, total attendance at Pennsylvania state parks increased from 22 million people in 1966 to 27 million in 1970. Camp managers and land owners expect even greater pressures due to increases in population, mobility, leisure time, and income as related to economic growth, Masse and Fletcher pointed out.

As might be expected, the campers in the six northcentral locations were primarily from the Commonwealth and outnumbered visitors from other states by 3 to 1. New York, New Jersey, and Ohio contributed 16 per cent of the visitors collectively. Twenty per cent of the campers came from the four counties in which the Pine Creek Watershed is located.

Major responsibility for the study was carried out by Mr. Masse, who conducted the research to meet requirements for the master of science degree in forestry at Penn State. Based on the results, he claims an adequate flow of information must be maintained between developers and campers to increase the recreation potential to a satisfactory level.

Plan Tractor Movement On Highways

About a third of all tractor-caused deaths occur on public roads, say Extension agricultural engineers at The Pennsylvania State University. Mile for mile, it's much safer to drive a car than a tractor on the highway. Tractor operators can reduce their chances of being involved in an accident by planning farm work so that they spend as little time as possible driving a tractor or other farm equipment on public roads.

Packers Advertising Policy Adopted

Guidelines for meat packers on payments to retailers or other customers for advertising or promotional activities were adopted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The guidelines are in a statement of general policy adopted by USDA's Packers and Stockyards Administration (P&SA), which were published in the Federal Register August 6. Interested persons were given opportunity to comment after the proposal was issued in April.

P&SA officials said the purpose of the policy statement is to establish that all competing customers of a meat packer should receive proportionally equal treatment in advertising and promotional allowances. The policy was developed after consultation with members of industry.

In adopting the policy, officials said they had received com-

plaints for several years over some advertising allowance practices by packers. Investigations indicated that in some cases there was no relationship between the payment made by a packer and the cost of providing the services. Investigation also showed that payments made to a packer's customers were not always used for the specified purposes.

It was determined that a policy statement be issued to guide packers in complying with provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act when they pay for or provide services to a customer who competes with other customers of the packer.

Copies of the policy statement may be obtained from the Information Office, Packers and Stockyards Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. D. 20250.

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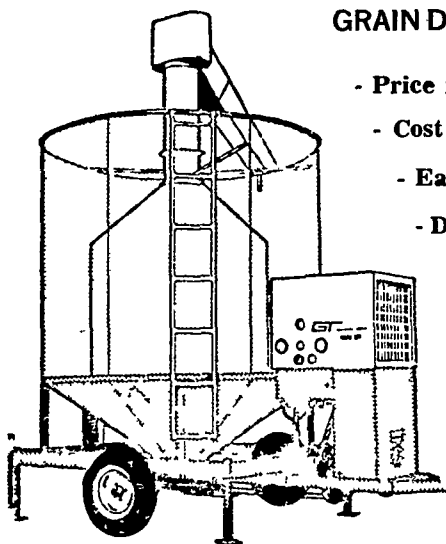
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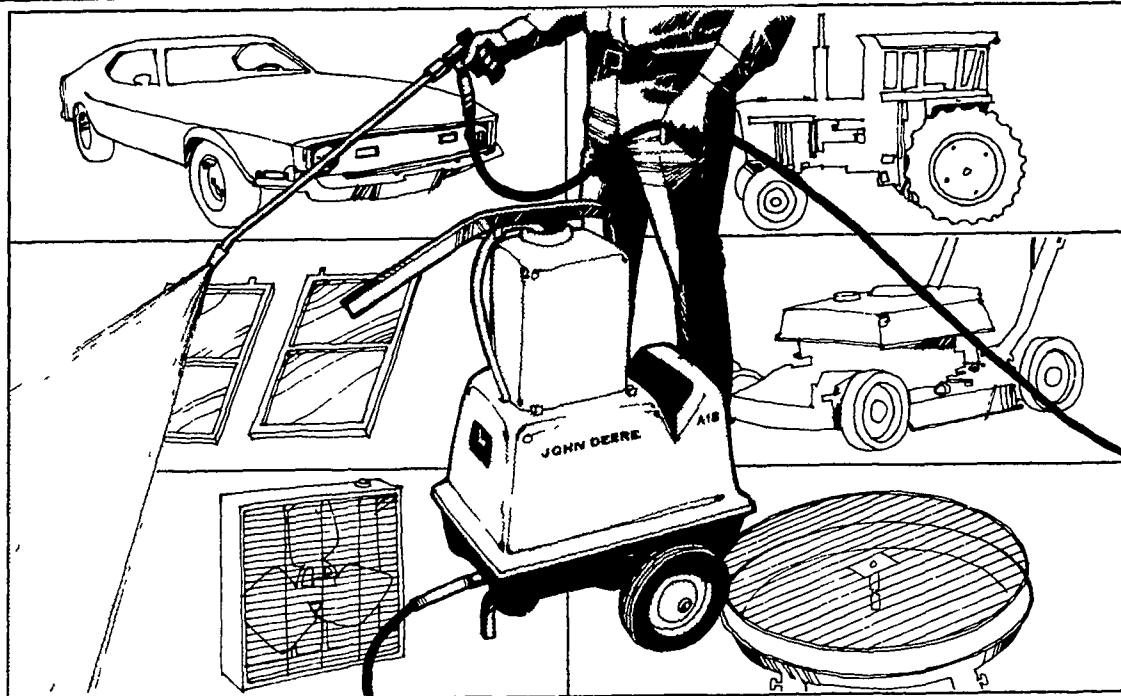
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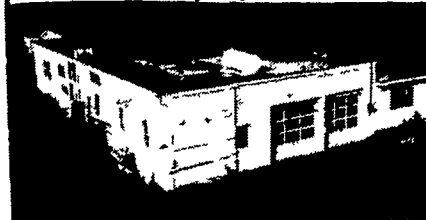
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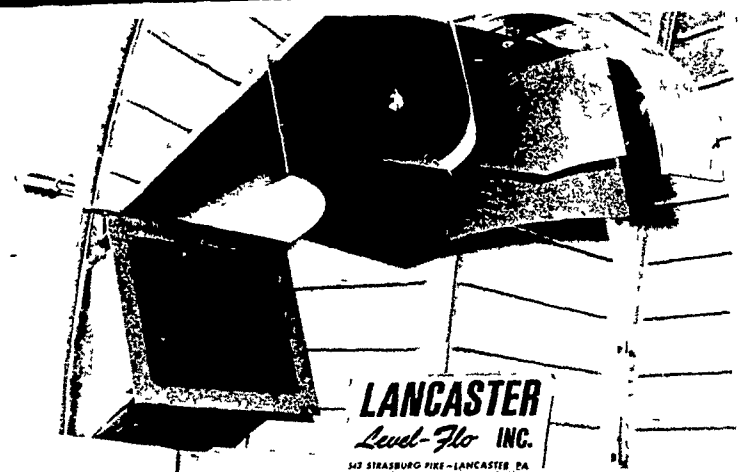
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