

Forest Stewardship Program Serves Landowners, Community

"The forest is far more than a collection of trees"

—Gifford Pinchot

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STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Suppose you own some forestland and are concerned because you haven't been seeing much wildlife.

Perhaps you have a wetland on your property and want to enhance it by establishing nesting areas and food sources for waterfowl.

Maybe you would like to thin the stand and use the firewood, but aren't sure which trees to remove. Perhaps you've been approached by someone wanting to buy your trees and aren't sure of their value

or the correct way to harvest them.

You decide to ask your neighbor about the timber sale he had last fall. He tells you somebody just stopped by his house and offered him a bunch of money for the biggest trees.

"How do you know if they did a good job or paid you fairly?," you ask. He replies, "Well, I guess I really don't. I just figured they knew what they were doing."

Somehow, you think, there's got to be a better way. Where can you go for guidance and assistance? Who can help you implement these practices? What can you legally do on your property? What is best for your specific objectives?

These are some of the most common questions asked by Pennsylvania's private forest landow-



In addition to providing heating fuel, building supplies and protection from weather extremes, forests also provide habitat for a multitude of plants and animals. Indignous bird species, many of which depend on forests, can be aided in maintaining their numbers through simple, but effective housing projects.



With fewer places left for children to explore the natural world, unencumbered by artificial demands, landowners can develop forests on their property. The forests provide a healthy individual classroom and playground for children, in addition to benefitting the total environment for the landowner.

ners. The new Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship program can provide the answers.

What is Forest Stewardship?

By definition, forest stewardship is the wise management and use of our forest resources to ensure their health and productivity for years to come. Stewardship challenges us to look beyond our immediate personal needs so we can leave a living legacy for future generations.

Forests provide us with many benefits necessary for life itself. They protect soils from erosion, purify our water, cleanse the air we

breathe, and provide wood products, food, and recreational opportunities.

Other benefits, including breathtaking scenery and peaceful tranquility, enrich our lives and provide us with a sense of well-being. Forests offer an escape from everyday tasks and help us appreciate the beauty of nature.

The wondrous displays of color splashed across the hills each fall, the snow-laden forests glistening in the sunshine, the thrill of sighting wildlife, the songs of birds, and the aromas of fragrant spring flowers add to the wonder that is

Pennsylvania.

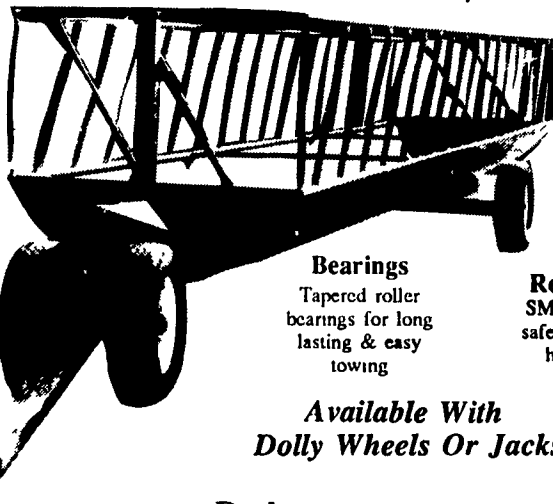
Countless plant and animal species combined with other nonliving things make up an ever-changing biological community that is continuously being influenced by natural elements like wind, rain, and sunshine.

This complex ecological web serves as an indicator of our planet's health. Only by understanding and maintaining this complex system will we be able to solve environmental problems such as pollution and global warming. It is up to us to see that our

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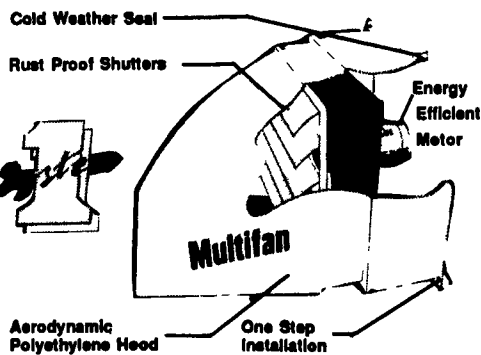
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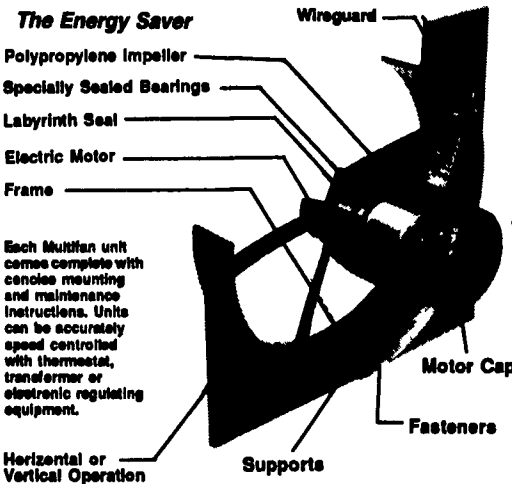
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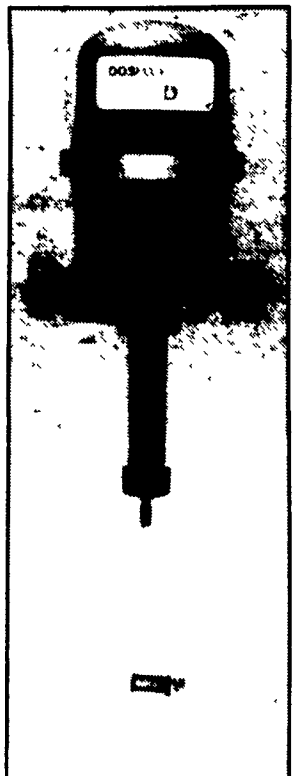
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