APPALACHIA - SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Route 5, Box 423 Livingston, Kentucky 40445
Main Office (606) 453-2105 Rockcastle Resource Center (606) 453-3115

But When Will It Be Reclaimed ?

NEW ASPI PUBLICATION

Appalachia - Science in the Public Interest has just released a report on strip mining in Laurel County. BUT WHEN WILL IT BE RECLAIMED? was written by Gary Steele and focuses on three mines that demonstrate different problems in the current method of regulating surface mining. These mines all drain into the Rockcastle River, the same stretch of the Rockcastle that runs by ASPI. The report traces some of the history of these mines, and shows that things are not always what government forms say they are.

It is our hope that other Appalachians will read this report and will continue to ask "But when will it be reclaimed?" until all strip mines are reclaimed. This report demonstrates that with enough persistence citizens can dig through the bureaucratic smokescreen that lies around many unreclaimed strip mines and find out who is to blame when mines go unreclaimed.

An additional purpose of this report is to alert government policymakers that the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 is not doing its job almost ten years after it was enacted. Although the current enforcement process may look good on paper, the mines it is charged with regulating do not look good at all. The three mines discussed in this report each serve as important examples of how SMCRA is failing to accomplish its aims.

To order the report, please send $4.00 to ASPI.

Other New Publications

* "Cisterns & Compost Toilets" A short description of the best ways to handle the water/household waste problem in the Appalachian Region. Four Pages. Send a stamped self-addressed envelop to ASPI. For each additional copy send twenty-five cents.

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* "The Treesavers Manual: A Lighthearted Guide to Saving the Forest." Very little has been done to classify infringers of our wood resources. This manual by Peter Ayers and Al Fritsch shows that nature itself has fashioned our manner of preserving the forests. The narrative includes many examples of what others have done and a discussion of how effective and worthwhile these methods are. Technical details of some eco-defense methods are included. Thirty-eight pages. Send $4.00 to ASPI.

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* Appalachian Simple Lifestyle Calendar--1987

This tenth edition of our calendar is the best. It is designed by Mark Spencer and includes Appalachian children photos by Warren Brunner and a poem by James Still. The price is $5.00. See enclosed brochure for mailing instructions and multiple purchase rates.

Send in early; we don't like to see disappointed customers in mid-December.

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* APPALACHIA: A MEDITATION. This is a book of photographs by Warren Brunner with reflections by Al Fritsch. The book takes us through the seasons of the year with appropriate Biblical verses. Each season makes its mark on the land and people of the region. All 74 photographs are in black-and-white. Soon to be released by Loyola University Press.

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* ASPI Notecards--Appalachian Wildflower Notecards. A set of six colored notecards with selected mountain scenery as background. $4.00 a set as reported in last Newsletter.

--Appalachian Christmas Scenes. Now in press. Details will be published in the next issue. They will make excellent Christmas Cards.