



"GOSH MOONDOOGIE,
I'D LOVE TO GO
DANCE TO THE
STARLIGHTERS
AND THEIR BIG BAND SOUND.
IN THE EMU BALLROOM?
GREAT!"

SAT. MAY 14 9 PM
DANCE LESSONS
AT 8 PM

FREE

Presented by the EMU Cultural Forum

your turn

No ecologic law

Pollution and waste, by nature, are not unnatural. Everything wastes, from the atomic level to the human level to any level. However, nature has the ability to cope with this pollution and waste. This ability is ecologic law: the building materials of life — energy, air, water, soil, etc. — must be and are used over and over. Wasting or pollution, then becomes a problem only when the quantity surpasses nature's ability to cope with it, to cycle it.

The fact that humans either ignore or neglect ecologic law is obvious. This blatant error is extremely evident in the fact of full to overflowing waste disposal sites and the lack of new, viable sites; the disastrous constant loss of soil; and the overall environmental disaster we humans have created on this planet.

In Oregon, with a human population of 2,633,149 (1980 Census), approximately 2,000,000 tons of solid waste were generated in 1980. This quantity is about 4.3-4.7 and 2.7-2.9 pounds of waste per person per day in urban and rural areas respectively (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality estimates, 1980). It is also apparent that these estimates have not changed for 1983.

It is now time, no, past time, for each of us to assume responsibility for our own waste and pollution. It do not mean making sure that the garbage is "thrown away" because there is no such place as away. The trash seen every day in the cities, forests, disposal sites, etc., is not away. That garbage is here and

will remain so forever in one form or another.

Two bills currently in the Oregon legislature would allow us in Oregon at least to begin to assume responsibility for our waste. These bills are HB 2244 and SB 405.

House Bill 2244 would require waste reduction plans, including those that have already been approved, to provide a program for source separation of recyclable materials.

Senate Bill 405 promotes recycling to a greater extent. SB 405 would require that the opportunity to recycle be provided to all the people of Oregon by July 1, 1986. The opportunity to recycle at its minimum is the provision of a place for collecting recyclable materials, once a month collection of recyclables and a public education program about recycling.

Another major part of SB 405 is that it would establish a strong, environmental waste policy for Oregon. This policy would give priority to waste management in the following, decreasing order: education, re-use, recycling, energy recovery and lastly, disposal.

I strongly urge everyone to show their support for these measures, HB 2244 and SB 405, by writing or calling their elected representatives and senators. I reiterate, it is time to take responsibility and control of our waste problem and with these bills we can do so with economic and environmental viability.

Brett Fisher

Fisher is a freshman in biology and history.

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