

# Natural area will take care of itself

Although we don't live in White Township, the controversy around the chance of timbering occurring inside White's Woods has, in a couple ways, touched us: once, when being asked by an individual to sign a petition against the timbering proposition; and the other, having had our home phone number listed on an e-mail solicitation as being the phone number of a White Township supervisor. That resulted in numerous incoming phone calls.

As my personal opinion has it on this matter, nature by and of itself has an excellent way of caring for itself — if left alone.

Penn's Woods was here before Pennsylvania became Pennsylvania and history instructs us how the first white folk to see the vast deep and dense forests here had never before witnessed such a wondrous testament to nature's bounty. That bounty wasn't a result of chain saws and log skidders.

I have on a couple occasions visited White's Woods, and it's a heartfelt consideration that an encroachment there of chain saws and log skidders would be a travesty against nature itself. That's said regardless of what the logging proponents' "experts" on the matter say.

In these days of living with many consternations and stressful events, there's a real need for having access to some tranquil place. A solemn, peaceful and restful place to reflection and to ponder. A

place apart from the noisy mechanized modern age. A natural place. A quiet place. A place like White's Woods. Our local citizens are deserving of one such place.

Now here's a revelation of an actual past occurrence. My father planted a young and very small sugar maple tree here in the year 1949. The same tree stands yet today upon a kind of central lawn area and casts cool shade inside its shadow. My father passed on in March 1979 and afterward, mother is said to have often wrapped her arms around that maple tree and prayed for its continued survival.

Some among us perhaps lack a true understanding and comprehension of just how and why another being could or would act out and feel such an emotional equivalent toward something such as a tree. Mother passed on in 1999 near to an age of 99. The old maple tree, now completely leafed-out with leaves moving in a breeze, lives on. Nature can, by and of itself, endure very well.

In conclusion, it's of utmost necessity for us to remember that we are a democracy. A government of the people, by the people, for the people. We elect our representatives, but for democracy to remain a democracy, function as it was intended to function, the will of the people overall must prevail.

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