

**NATION-WIDE CITIZEN GROUP ENDORSEMENTS URGED FOR A 'FOUR POINT PLAN OF ACTION' TO APPEAR IN A NEW "CITIZEN GUIDE TO SOLVING AMERICA'S GARBAGE CRISIS."** The **New York Public Interest Research Group** wants to show nation-wide grass roots support for the four-point plan of action outlined in its upcoming 'Citizen Guide'. **NYPIRG** are urging citizen groups to add their names to the list of endorsements. Contact **Larry Shapiro** or **Steve Romalewski, a.s.a.p.**, at 212-349-6460. Address: **NYPIRG**, 9 Murray Street, NY, NY 10007.

#### FOUR POINT PLAN OF ACTION

1. A **five-year moratorium** must be adopted immediately to prevent new garbage incinerators from being built or operated. This moratorium must be continued until comprehensive waste reduction, recycling and reuse alternatives have been maximized and strict environmental, health and occupational protection standards have been adopted for the wide range of toxic chemicals found in incinerator airborne emissions and ash residues.
2. **All forms of incinerator ash must be managed as hazardous waste.**
3. Local, state and national **comprehensive waste reduction, recycling and reuse programs must be established on a mandatory basis** to eliminate 60 to 90 percent of current waste output in ten to 20 years, respectively. Communities must begin implementing these programs as a condition of all existing state and federal solid waste permits. Until they have been fully established, no new permits should be granted sanctioning construction or operation of landfills, ash monofills, transfer stations and, most important, incinerators.
4. **So-called "integrated" solid waste management systems must be opposed.**

This well-referenced 40 page Citizen Guide outlines the major environmental and health hazards of municipal waste incineration, a review of air emissions, ash leachate analyses, pollution control devices, and an outline of "The Best Plan of Action: Avoid Incineration through Reduction, Recycling and Reuse." In particular, the Guide exposes "integrated" waste-management as a thinly disguised attempt to promote incineration by other means. **NYPIRG** has recently published a Citizen Guide that is site-specific for New York State that has been endorsed by over 100 N.Y. citizen groups. The NY Guide is available for \$5 (group rates available) from **NYPIRG** (address above). The **national** Citizen Guide will be released shortly and copies will be available for \$5 from **NYPIRG**.

**MINNESOTA: MINNEAPOLIS ENACTS THE MOST FAR-REACHING PLASTIC BAN YET.** On March 31, 1989, the Minneapolis City Council unanimously "adopted an ordinance to ban most throwaway plastic food packaging from grocery store shelves and fast-food outlets. The legislation, which does not take effect until July 1990, would permit the use of items like plastic milk jugs or soft-drink bottles only if the city can work out an acceptable recycling program for plastics...In general, the ordinance would prohibit any kind of packaging that is not environmentally acceptable; that is, packaging that is not naturally degradable, like paper; returnable for reuse, like some glass containers; or acceptable for recycling like metal cans. Until now, the most ambitious attempt by local officials to restrict the use of plastic packaging was an ordinance adopted in Suffolk County, Long Island (NY), that barred the use of polystyrene plastic for fast foods or other foods packaged by local retailers. The ordinance is scheduled to take effect in July unless legal challenges succeed. The ordinances (in Minneapolis) cover the same items as the Long Island legislation, as well as plastic containers used for milk, peanut butter, ketchup, syrup and other items. It would exempt some plastics, like the clear wrapping used to cover meats or microwave dinners, for which there are no easy alternatives. Advocates of the ordinance say that the plastics take up too much space when buried and do not decompose. They add that, when burned, the plastics release harmful emissions...Steve Cramer, the sponsor of the ordinance, said the cost of recycling

*Printed on recycled paper, naturally*

plastic was prohibitive, without help from industry, because only about 20% of the plastics used in packaging can be recycled, given current technology. The EPA has estimated that such trash will make up 15% of the nation's solid waste by the turn of the century, more than double what it is now...Roger Bernstein, director of state government affairs for the **Society of Plastics Industry** in Washington described the proposal here as 'insane...' Mr. Bernstein added, "We don't even ban unsafe products in this country." New York Times, national edition, 4-1-89, page 6.

"...BURNING 100 LBS OF HIGH-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE SAVES ABOUT 20 MILLION BTU. RECYCLING THE SAME AMOUNT INTO A FABRICATED PRODUCT INCREASES THE SAVINGS TO ALMOST 40 MILLION BTU..." Design News, 5-4-87, page 51.

# "THE GREAT GARBAGE CONCERT"

## **GLENN McClURE** WITH THE COMPOSTIBLES



Glenn McClure is a musically gifted young man with a message. Glenn will entertain like a piper any audience into recycling, composting and fighting toxic polluting incinerators and incinerator ash landfills. Glenn will perform wherever there is an audience, whether in schools, concert halls or prisons. Glenn is willing to travel and for bookings he can be contacted at:

P.O. Box 293  
Geneseo, NY 14454  
Tel: 716-243-0324

**THE GREAT GARBAGE CONCERT.** like most great things started small. Some everyday people from the hamlet of York, New York, found themselves politically downwind from the growing national crisis of solid waste disposal. Not liking the smell, they formed a community action group called P.A.C.E. (Protect A Clean Environment) to promote waste reduction and recycling, and to raise some unanswered questions about the push toward incineration. Glenn McClure went home to York and listened to the fears, the exasperation, the laughter, and the wisdom of his old friends, and lent his music to the cause. From humble beginnings THE GREAT GARBAGE CONCERT has been recycled in locations throughout the northeast. These live recordings will give you a whiff of good garbage music. Among the highlights is the GARBOPHONE, a state-of-the-art, outrageously low-tech, synthesizer made of things rescued from the incinerator.

### Waste Not 49

A publication of  
**Work On Waste USA,**  
a non-profit corporation dedicated to the  
promotion of sound resource  
management policy.

Annual Subscription Rate: \$25.  
Students & Seniors: \$15  
Consultants &  
for-profit organizations: \$100.

Letters, articles and calls from the public  
welcome.

Paul & Ellen Connett, Editors  
82 Judson Street  
Canton, New York 13617  
(315)379-9200

Printed on recycled paper, naturally