

consumer mailbag

Q. What is the largest fresh water lake in the world?
A. Lake Superior.

Q. What agreement was signed on Feb. 11, 1985?
A. The Great Lakes Charter, a historic agreement among all 10 Great Lake States and provinces of Canada, was signed to coordinate all Great Lakes action.

Q. What happens every year on March 19 in California to a species of birds?
A. The swallows return to Capistrano.

Q. What percentage in a Gallup Poll said they had sorted their trash for reuse or recycling within the previous seven days?
A. Forty-two percent said they had sorted their trash that week.

Q. Lane County, Ore., had the largest infestation of gypsy moths in the Western United States. How many moths were found last summer after four years of spraying with a biological alternative to chemical pesticides? (19,000 were found in 1984). In 1988 they found:
A. One.

Q. Despite energy efficiency improvements, how much of the world's energy does the U.S. currently consume?
A. Twenty-seven percent is consumed by 5 percent of the world's population.

Q. Using industry report projections, how much of five heavy metals (zinc, copper, lead, chromium and nickel) was released nationwide into air, local water and sewage plants in 1987?
A. One hundred and seventy-five million pounds, according to calculations by OMB Watch, a non-profit research and advisory group in Washington D.C.

Q. What level of energy efficiency improvement can be achieved in the next few years?
A. Studies show we can double



Terry Gibb

current energy efficiency without hurting the economy.

Q. What has been celebrated every April 22 since 1970?
A. Earth Day.

Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin conceived the idea of Earth Day during a speech at Boydstown, Neb., in conjunction with a bill to ban the widespread use of herbicides and pesticides.

The purpose of Earth Day was to

call attention to reclaiming the purity of our air, water and living environment. The Earth Day slogan: Give Earth a Chance.

In 1971, Earth Day became part of a week of activities aimed at dramatizing the need for action in preserving our environment. Many groups around the country still celebrate Earth Day with special observances and activities.

This short quiz was derived from many sources. The purpose is to prompt you to think about our environment that we borrow from our children and grandchildren. Think about the good and the not so good and what each of us can do about it. We are all quick to point to environmental mishaps (such as the Valdez

oil spill) and moan how inadequate government response is to correct or control these environmental problems.

But, how many of us consider our individual impact on our surroundings? If each of us made a simple concession in terms of environmental thoughtfulness, a significant change would take place.

ECO-TIP: For suggestions on ways you might protect our environment, call Concern Detroit at 953-6092.

The Consumer Mailbag answers your questions. Address mail to Concern Detroit, 1 Kennedy Square, 4th Floor, Detroit, Mich. 48226.

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