

Olly
5th Grade
Philadelphia County

Hello, I am a fifth-grade student Olly! I think we as a state should focus on environmental protection and keeping Pennsylvania beautiful. As a nature lover, it hurts me to see our beautiful country and state being trashed. People believe the environment doesn't matter because "we're advancing with technology and we have all this cool science" but they don't realize it matters the most.

I think we should try and get involved in the state senate to pass new bills to protect the environment, and everyone in Pennsylvania should try and get more involved in our community like joining "save the earth" clubs in our school, making sure we recycle, and when you go outside just make sure to pick up trash. We need to do this because the PA Waste Industries Association says that approximately 9.6 million tons of trash go to landfills each year in PA! I also believe we need to spread awareness of the environment.

Thankfully at my school, we care very much about the environment. At my school we compost, we have white bins for recycling paper, and all over the school, we have recycling bins. We also use compostable things like compostable lunch boxes.

I think to keep Pennsylvania beautiful we must get involved in our communities, and get our parks and recreation departments to open new parks where factories and buildings would be built. I think we should even take this to Congress and try to get them to get new laws. If we get involved and make our voices heard we can make change! We must come together. We are all powerful people and we need to unite. I also believe that we should cut down on hunting, it disturbs the environment by making the food web unbalanced because we would have killed an animal but the environment would not usually have someone shoot an animal.

We also need to designate more land for state parks so we can keep environmental regulations and remove hunting on the animals that live there.

According to the National Parks Conservation Association, more than 600 endangered or threatened species in the United States are protected by national parks all across the country! We also should stop factories from mass production because it causes so much air pollution and that affects the birds, and how we can see the sky, and it also causes difficulty breathing for humans. This is why I love the Litter Hawk

program and the whole Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection! Thank you for listening to my argument to protect the beautiful state of Pennsylvania!

Sincerely, Olly