

Foundation for Historic Christ Church

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October 24, 2005

Mr. William H. Pennell
Administrator
Lancaster County
8311 Mary Ball Road
Lancaster, VA 22503

Dear Bill:

The Executive Committee of the Foundation for Historic Christ Church has instructed me to share its concerns about recent timbering operations in the vicinity of Christ Church.

Christ Church is arguably the most significant historic asset extant in Lancaster County. Maintaining the pastoral setting surrounding the church enhances its beauty and desirability as a tourist destination. Over the years the Foundation has attempted to protect the view shed through land acquisition. Recent timbering north of the church, most done without a roadside buffer, ran right up to land owned by the Foundation and left a terrible scar on church's northerly approach. An appropriate buffer would have diminished the unsightliness.

Further, a rash of such projects in the presently unregulated environment could blemish the County from end to end. Such a circumstance can only diminish Lancaster County's residential development potential and prominence as a tourist destination.

With these thoughts in mind we encourage you to share our concern with the Supervisors. Moreover, we would encourage the Supervisors to enact an ordinance that would require an adequate roadside buffer for all such timbering operations, reasonable notice by the property owner to an appropriate authority and some form of inspection to assure compliance.

Thank you for giving ear to our concerns and for your attention.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Cornelius