The Conservation of Natural Resources ~ Your Cargo Cult College ~ © 2025 Dr. Walt Aikman

An Introduction to Community-based Conservation

Required Reading

There are *three articles* you have to read for this assignment; two new, one you've already read:

- 1. Aldo Leopold's essay "The Deer Swath" from Part III, A taste for Country;
- 2. Dan Dagget's essay, "Collaboration as teacher" in Knight and White, and,
- 3. Antony S. Cheng, "Natural Resource Agencies: The Necessity for Change" in Knight and White.

Assignment:

Based on class discussions and our trip to the Onondaga Lake restoration education center, craft a typed essay of no more than four pages about ecosystem restoration. Consider and address each of the following series of questions to frame your work:

Why does Leopold think it is important to understand how different people relate to land?

What do Dagget's ideas about collaboration suggest for Onondaga Lake Restoration?

Look into the concerns suburban residents in Camillus have about Onondaga Lake sediment processing near their neighborhoods. When you read Cheng, you'll notice he mentions "capacity gaps." What are these, and how do they relate to what is happening in Camillus?

Also, Cheng describes how local people and their organizations are joining forces with state and federal land managers. What evidence does Cheng present to show a growing willingness to accept management responsibility traditional agencies will not?

Typed responses only.