

Nature and Conservation

By

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The kind of world I wish to live in is a lovely world where nature has been conserved, where people are connected to the past, present, and the future. Where foxhunting is commonplace and is respected by our neighbors and communities. I believe that nature and conservation serve as a pathway to the old, young, and the lover of good sport with hounds while hunting.

Foxhunting in nature provides us with a link to our Ancestors as strong as the mighty trunk of an oak. Upon undeveloped land is the only place one can hunt and feel the sense of belonging that comes with the knowledge that for countless generations people have done the same. Take George Washinton for example, over 200 years ago he was enjoying the same “thrill of the chase” that we do today. Washington loved foxhunting so much that he painstakingly bred the first American Foxhounds. Retaining access to land to hunt on has been a fundamental part of foxhunting that for centuries people of the past have worked hard to maintain. To protect and honor this earth is to become intertwined with it. Having hunted with five different hunts in the south, I have acquired many memorable sights and experiences, therefore I believe qualifies me to say that everything from the beech trees to the coyotes should, if at all possible, be conserved for people now to experience life back then. Clearly, nature provides a connection to the past that is needed in today’s world.

The relationship between foxhunting upon well managed land and the present is unmistakable. In nature people can enjoy another, I dare say, better world that teaches them to

enjoy their entire surroundings and hunt territory instead of only the chase. Within the last quarter of a century, people have become more stressed, and disconnected from the land, which has elevated the importance of conserved land as a means to reconnect while hunting. As a result, the importance of landowners, which is often overlooked like a still rabbit when basset hunting, allowing people to hunt on their land is critical to the life of a hunt club. Thus the need to continually work to keep and open up new hunt territories has never been more important.

Preservation of land for future generations is a crucial aspect of keeping our traditions alive. Whether or not we have any inclination as to what the future holds, conservation will ensure that our passion for horses and hounds will live on for the next generations. If we do not sustain the nature all around us, what hope is there for our world? For our sport? For our passion? I believe that without land conservation for the future generations, foxhunting will die and become like chariot racing, a sport only observed in paintings...

In conclusion, nature and conservation are important to me because they provide people with a vital connection to the past, present, and future. Most significantly, without landowner's permission to ride across their land foxhunting would lose its appeal. Foxhunting is my world, my passion, and without land our sport would just be another class at a hunter show. So to me we *must* Promote, Preserve, and Protect our hunt territories and nature if we are to pass our love for the sport and traditions on to future generations.

Thank You.

