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AICPA Committee on Ecology

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Committee on Ecology

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The AICPA committee on ecology was formed in 1970 at the suggestion of Louis M. Kessler, then president of the Institute. Its stated objectives are:

To compile information on the work being performed by CPAs in the area of environmental management and to recommend methods by which the resources of the accounting profession can be used effectively in resolving the ecological crisis.

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At first, the thought of CPAs taking an important role in the national effort to restore the ecology may strike some as incongruous. But when it's remembered that a viable ecology is itself a self-balancing system, that ignorance and greed have destroyed or threatened to destroy certain essential elements of that system, and that each effort to restore the "self-balancing" features of the environment poses new possible dangers, the importance of a systems approach to pollution control becomes clear. Such an approach, taking into account all possible consequences of each remedial action proposed, is the area where the MAS departments of CPA firms are making their greatest contribution. Here's the story of what's happening in just one state, Pennsylvania, in just one area, water pollution . . .