

**N**ormally, I'd give thanks for having a turkey on Thanksgiving Day, but there are too many turkeys out there that don't pass inspection and are bad for our economy, quality of life and the health and vitality of the green industry.

We've had to put up with so many turkeys, past and present, that it's hard to remain positive. (I just know there will be a report out soon on the dangers of pumpkin pie that will put a fork into the normally happy feast.) I jotted down a list of some of these turkeys.

■ **Montreal Protocol:** The ozone layer will continue to shrink and expand like it has done for ages — and Mother Nature will continue to produce more ozone-depleting compounds annually than man. Geopolitics has replaced geosciences. Asia, Latin America and other developing regions will be allowed to continue to pollute at the expense of American agriculture and the green industry while methyl bromide gets banned from golf courses. It's not scientific and definitely not fair when you consider how little golf uses methyl bromide for fumigation compared to other industries.

■ **Global Warming (aka Climate Change):** As a geology major, I continue to struggle to get my head around the notion that man-made exhaust fumes are creating a planetary crisis. The fumes may be creating local air pollution, but that's about it.

If I challenge Al Gore and others on man's ultimate influence on the Earth's atmosphere, I'm labeled a denier. A friend recently opined, "Suppose all the cap and trade, rules and regulations, green energy, etc., do work and they start lowering temperatures. What is the magic temperature number and who gets to decide for the whole planet?"

Who knows? The point is no one knows. There are no guarantees of a static earth. In the geologic past, it has gone from very tropical in places like Pennsylvania (what do you think created the coal deposits?) to the ice ages to modern times where volcanoes still smolder, Yellowstone's geysers still boil, and earthquakes still level our cities. I radically maintain

## These Turkeys Have Ruined My Appetite

BY JOEL JACKSON



I STRUGGLE TO GET  
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THE NOTION THAT  
MAN-MADE EXHAUST  
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CREATING A CRISIS

that the sun and our place in the solar system will dominate our climate for eons to come.

■ **Cap and Trade:** A stepchild of climate change. If the turf and trees are already sequestering carbon, why should the government charge a fee to the companies that are big carbon emitters to buy theoretical rights to acres of sequestration? It's happening. You can't tell a CO<sub>2</sub> molecule where it must go to sequester. For all that nonsense, the companies will raise their rates and prices to consumers, so it's a lose/lose proposition in the end, except for big government.

■ **EPA and Water Sense:** Conserving water is practical and logical. If every man, woman and child was educated about conservation, we wouldn't need half the laws on the books, of which few are ever enforced like watering restrictions. But now Big Brother is planning to issue nationwide numbers on lawn size, irrigation cycles and nutrient levels for nitrogen and phosphorus. One size fits all — in America?

To heck with all the state best management practices that have been researched, written and published based on local knowledge and real-life experience. Regulation by computer model is alive and well. And whatever happened to private property rights?

■ **In Conclusion:** I hate to say it, but because more people — golf folks included — haven't stepped up to the plate in large enough numbers and loudly endorsed and become certified in practical, voluntary best management practices and cooperative sanctuary programs, our politicians and bureaucrats might be carving up our turkeys for us.

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