

# The Red, White And Blue — (And The Green)

BY BILL FAVER

**W**e usually think of the flag during the days surrounding the annual Independence Day holiday. This symbol of our



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heritage waves proudly to remind us of the historical and cultural events which have combined to make us the great nation we have today.

Even with the flaws and the problems inherent in any democracy, this experiment has changed the world

and the status of millions of people on this planet.

We can be equally as proud of the "green" we have. There is no green in the flag, but we have led the world in proclaiming the value of conservation, environmental stewardship, and the understanding of ecology. This was not always the case, of course, as we exploited the land, stripped the earth with mining, and killed off important species in earlier times. We could have learned from the Native Americans about the importance of the natural world to our well-being, but we ignored and exploited them as well.

In recent years we seem to understand more. With the original "Earth Day", environmental legislation, and grass-roots recognition of the need to do better, we have begun to give "green" the place it should have along with the red, white, and blue.

Now, joining "little old ladies in tennis shoes" are school children, major corporations, scientists, corporate executives, and government agencies, all seeking to preserve our natural



PHOTO BY BILL FAVER

***What better place than the Brunswick County beaches to remind us of the importance of "green" in our heritage?***

heritage for our own well-being and for future generations.

You're invited to "see the green" this year and to become a vital part of the effort to preserve open space, to save

habitat for all species, and to lend your efforts to recycling, beautification, and enjoyment of our natural heritage. Make it a red, white, and blue... and green summer.