**A new book has been published about Global Climate Change and Environment:**

**Wood, Mary C.  2014.  Nature’s Trust:  environmental law for a new ecological age.  Cambridge University Press,  436 pp. (**[**mwood@uoregon.edu**](mailto:mwood@uoregon.edu)**)**

**The Corvallis community was first introduced to NATURE’S TRUST at a Spring Creek lecture series called “The Commons” 10 years ago.**

The PUBLIC TRUST concept in a nutshell:

* Waters, wildlife and air remain common property belonging to the people as a whole.

They are in a **perpetual trust** for future generations.

* Present and future generations are legal beneficiaries.  Government (s) have a fiduciary

obligation over these resources.

* Implicit in 8th grade civics is that a government exists to support the people’s interests.

**Wood maintains that:**

* + All three branches of government, not just the judicial branch, must carry out their fiduciary responsibility
* All "natural resources" are held in trust, not just water and wildlife (i.e. air)
  + All governmental agencies must comply, not just states, the Federal Government, and

Indian Tribes

* All ownership is involved, not just public ownership

**Extending these ideas to our planet and the world, viz. Global Climate Change:**

* The Oceans and the atmosphere belong *to* ***ALL*** people of the earth
* We must think outside the legal sphere to include – political concepts, ethical meanings, diplomatic frameworks, and economic principles
* The public trust is as important as The Magna Carta (1215), and Ghandi’s march to the sea

in 1930