

**Executive Order Creating
Environment and Natural Resources Leadership Cabinet**

WHEREAS, each and every citizen of the State of Illinois is entitled to a safe and healthful environment and the protection and conservation of Illinois' irreplaceable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Illinois must promote the conservation of natural resources and encourage public recreation opportunities to enhance the quality of life, prosperity and general welfare of the People of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, environment and natural resources progress in Illinois and the protection of our environment and natural resources for future generations will depend largely on effective State Government stewardship and consensus-building; and

WHEREAS, because of the varied missions and responsibilities of a number of state agencies with programs and policies that affect the environment and natural resources of Illinois, effective State Government demands a renewed and strengthened commitment to a fully coordinated and integrated decision-making process that will lead to better informed decisions, and to the establishment of long-range goals, strategies and programs which will balance the vitally important needs of the State's environment and natural resources, and the Illinois economy;

THEREFORE, I, George H. Ryan, hereby order the following:

1. There is created an Environment and Natural Resources Leadership Cabinet, headed by the Senior Advisor to the Governor on Environment and Natural Resources.
2. Environment and Natural Resources Cabinet Members shall include as permanent members: the Directors of the Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture, Department of Nuclear Safety and Department of Commerce and Community Affairs; and the Secretary of the Department of Transportation. The Cabinet may seek the *ad hoc* participation of other State departments, agencies, boards and commissions as necessary or appropriate.
3. The Lieutenant Governor may appoint a representative to participate in Cabinet discussions and deliberations in order to assure coordination of actions and policies regarding the Illinois River Coordinating Council and other economic, environmental and natural resources initiatives of that Office.

4. The objectives of the Cabinet will include, but not be limited to, coordination of key decisions impacting Illinois' environment and natural resources, development of natural resource and environmental principles that consider all of Illinois; identification and maximization of state, federal and private sources of assistance and support; and the delivery of quality services and the enhancement of the quality of life available to the People of Illinois.
5. The Cabinet is encouraged to seek public input, pursue public-private partnerships and promote community-based planning on key issues affecting protection, conservation, enjoyment and use of the State's environment and natural resources.
6. The Environment and Natural Resources Leadership Cabinet shall meet at least monthly.
7. This Executive Order shall be effective immediately.

GEORGE H. RYAN
Governor

April 21, 1999